DOLL
MITSUKAZU MIHARA

Manga
Science-Fiction
USA $9.99

ISBN 1591828880

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MITSUKAZU MIHARA
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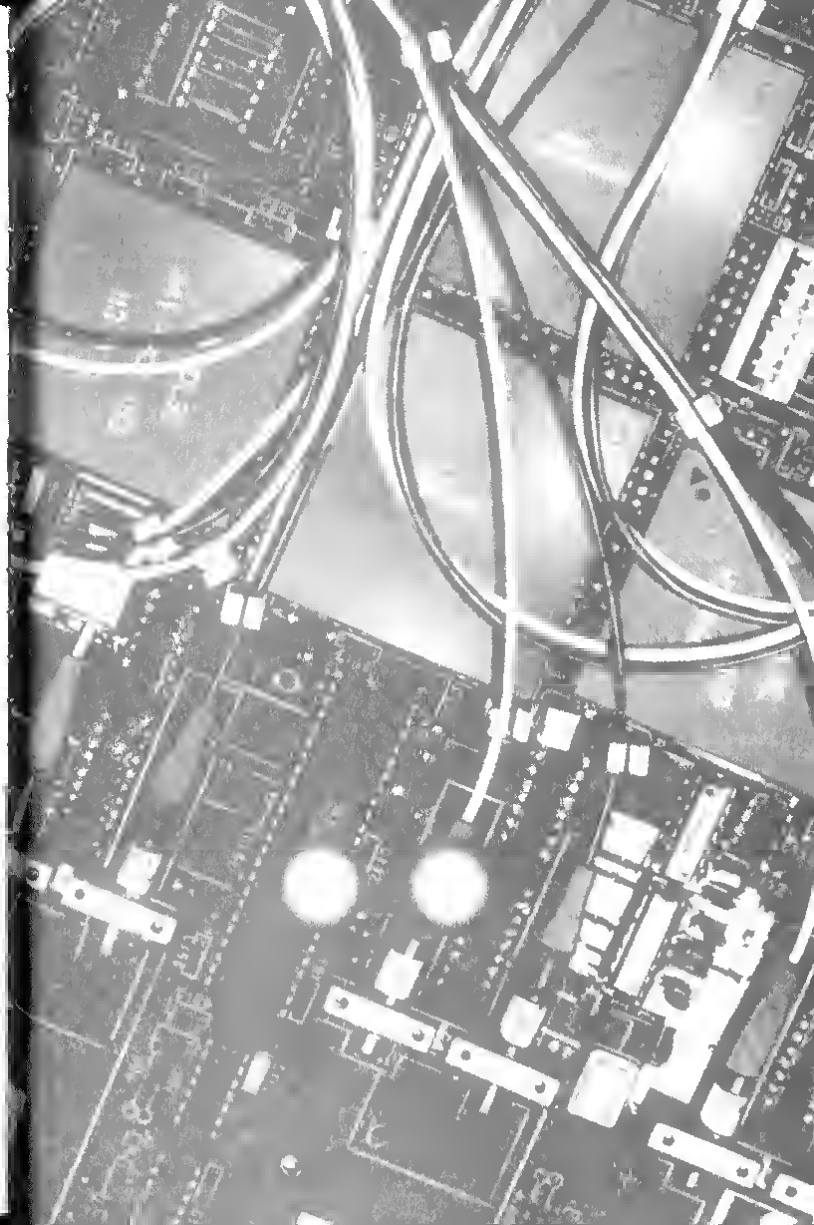
DOLL



DOLL

VOLUME 3

BY

MITSUKAZU MIHARA

TOKYOPOP

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

Doll Volume 3

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ISBN: 1-59182-888-0

First TOKYOPOP printing: January 2005

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

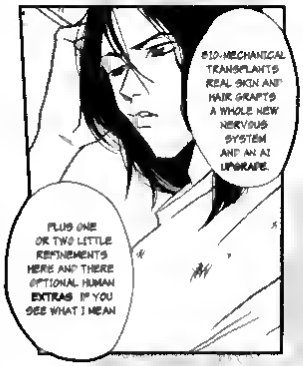
Printed in the USA

Like any successful company, the SG Corporation doesn't rest on its laurels. It's always working to develop newer, more diverse, and more sophisticated Dolls. Kaoru and Motohiko Kirishima, two pioneers of Doll development, were the co-creators of the prototype "Sterol-2" Doll. With Kaoru as the project leader and Motohiko as the research assistant, the Sterol-2 was to be the most advanced

Doll ever created, capable of preserving the world's greatest minds...even after death. To Motohiko, the Sterol-2 Doll was also to be the newly married couple's first "baby."

Dolls are human-like androids manufactured by the SG Corporation. A Doll can fulfill many varied needs and serve any number of purposes, including personal assistant, secretary, cook, maid, laborer, companion, lover...and, of course, status symbol.

There are others who push the boundaries of Doll development...though in a much less official capacity. "Remodellers" are people who illegally alter Dolls. Sometimes, people want Dolls that are either unavailable... or unaffordable... and that's where the Remodellers come in. Special orders are their specialty... though, like any illegal deals, there are no receipts and absolutely no returns.


S10-MECHANICAL TRANSPLANTS REAL SKIN AND HAIR GRAFTS A WHOLE NEW NERVOUS SYSTEM AND AN AI UPGRADE.
PLUS ONE OR TWO LITTLE REFINEMENTS HERE AND THERE OPTIONAL HUMAN EXTRAS IF YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN

Like most machines, Dolls were created to make humanity's existence better or easier in some way. However, the true test of any device's benefits is not the intent of the designers...but rather the actions of the users.

Well into the development of the Sterol-2, Kaoru developed a mysterious, degenerative mental condition with symptoms that are similar to Alzheimer's disease. Despite access to the top doctors in Japan's foremost neural hospital, nothing could be done to help Kaoru's condition.

Desperate for some way to save his brilliant wife, Motohiko used the Sterol-2 prototype to try to house a copy of Kaoru's mind... though he quickly realized the error of his ways. Soon afterward, Motohiko resigned from the SG Corporation to take care of Kaoru full-time. Leaving all the project notes so that others could pick up where he and Kaoru left off, Motohiko stipulated that no part of their work could be used to create likenesses of actual people...and that no human memories would be implanted into a Doll.

LIST 13

DOLL 3

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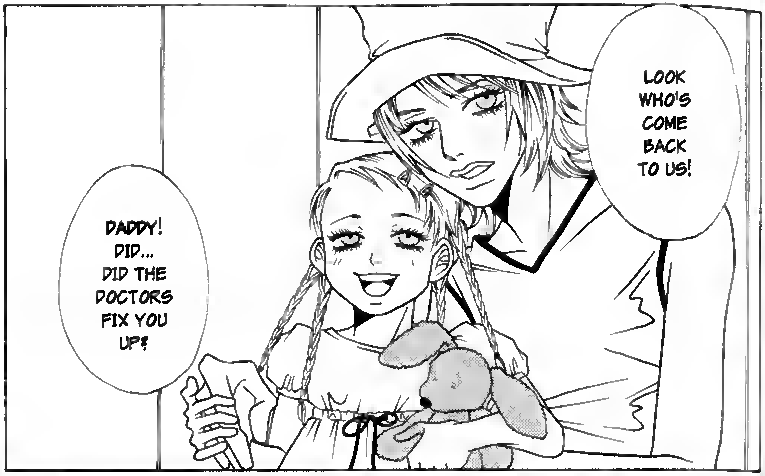
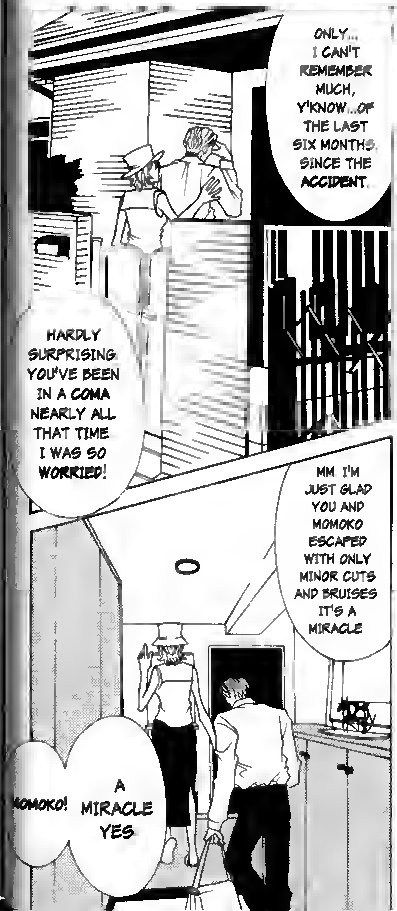
MOMOKO, I'M--WAIT!
DADDY! DADDY! AT SCHOOL TODAY, WE DANCED ON STAGE AND SANG AND..
THAT TRUCK! IT PULLED OUT OF N. WHERE! I CAN'T--


LOOK WHO'S COME BACK TO US!
DADDY! DID... DID THE DOCTORS FIX YOU UP?

BUT SOMETHING WASN'T QUITE RIGHT. SOMETHING IN THEIR SMILES...

YOU, MOMOKO.. ARE ALL THE MEDICINE I NEED

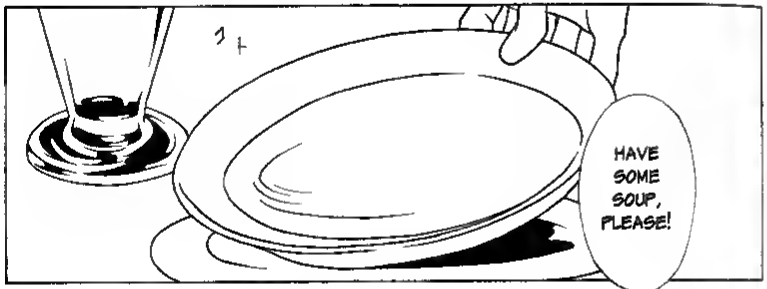

ONLY... I CAN'T REMEMBER MUCH, Y'KNOW...OF THE LAST SIX MONTHS, SINCE THE ACCIDENT.
HARDLY SURPRISING YOU'VE BEEN IN A COMA NEARLY ALL THAT TIME I WAS SO WORRIED!
MM. I'M JUST GLAD YOU AND MOMOKO ESCAPED WITH ONLY MINOR CUTS AND BRUISES IT'S A MIRACLE
MOMOKO!
A MIRACLE YES

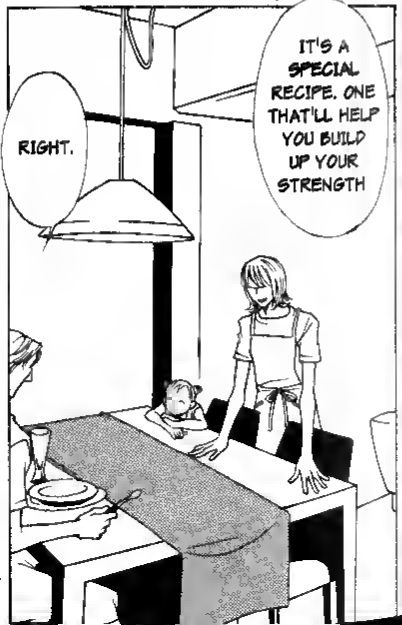
IT MUST FEEL NICE TO BE BACK HOME AGAIN.
Y- YES.

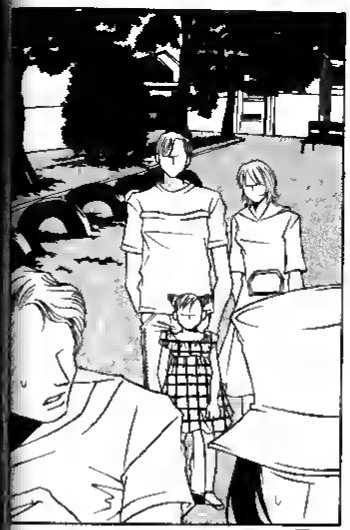
KYOKO?
LOOK!

THE COMPANY'S BEEN VERY UNDERSTANDING, BUT IT'S TIME I GOT BACK TO WORK. THEY NEED ME
SURELY NOT.
YOU'RE GOING OUT?
I THINK. I'LL WEAR THE GRAY SUIT TODAY. YES AND THIS TIE.
THEY CAN MANAGE WITHOUT YOU. DON'T GO!
STAY HOME... AND REST, WITH US. WE NEED YOU.

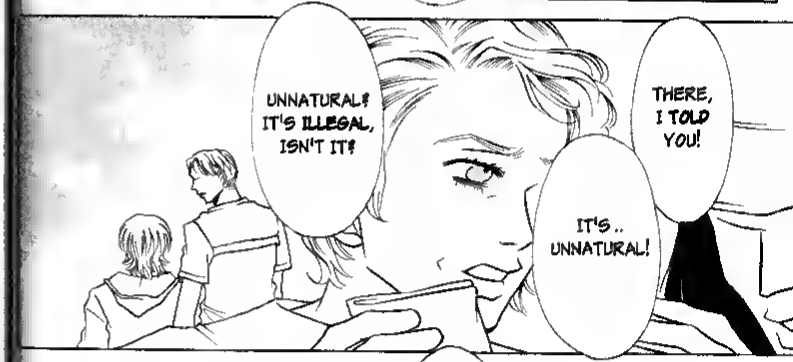
MY FEELINGS OF UNEASE INTENSIFIED AS THE DAYS PASSED...



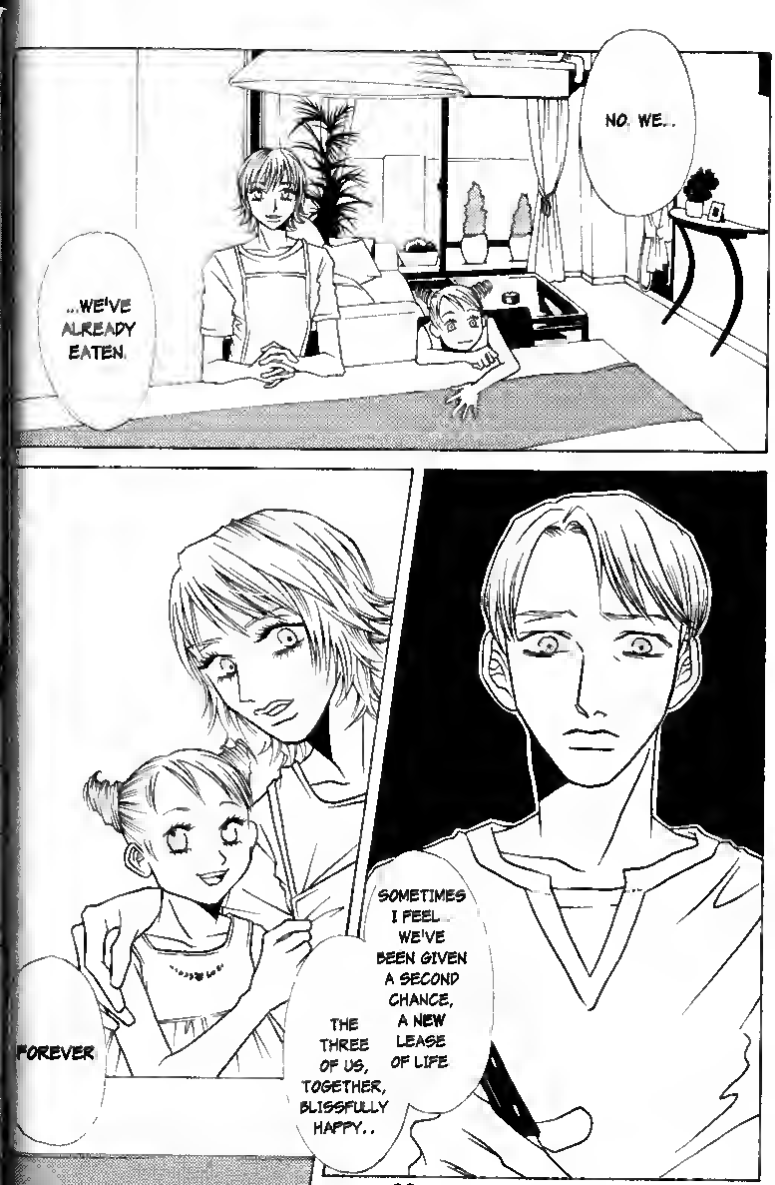




MY HUSBAND'S MUCH BETTER, THANK YOU. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN. SORRY TO HAVE PUT YOU TO ANY TROUBLE.
N-NO PROBLEM. I'M...GLAD. REALLY.



MADNESS.
TO EVEN
THINK IT...
DARLING!
MADNESS...


NO, WE..
...WE'VE
ALREADY
EATEN.
FOREVER
THE
THREE
OF US,
TOGETHER,
BLISSFULLY
HAPPY..
SOMETIMES
I FEEL
WE'VE
BEEN GIVEN
A SECOND
CHANCE,
A NEW
LEASE
OF LIFE

I'M HERE...
...MOTHER.
I JUST HEARD THAT YOU WERE HOME WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL?
THE THOUGHT OF YOU, ROAMING AROUND THAT BIG HOUSE WITH--AND NOT KNOWING... WELL, IT'S NOT RIGHT.
RING!
HELLO? HELLO? SHOZO-- ARE YOU THERE?
I-I TOLD THEM! I DID! YOU CAN'T BRING BACK THE DEAD... YOU CAN'T!

IF ONLY I COULD REMEMBER THE CRASH... AND WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS!
DRIP!
RING-RING, RING-RING!
WE'RE OFF SHOPPING. BE BACK SOON, DARLING.

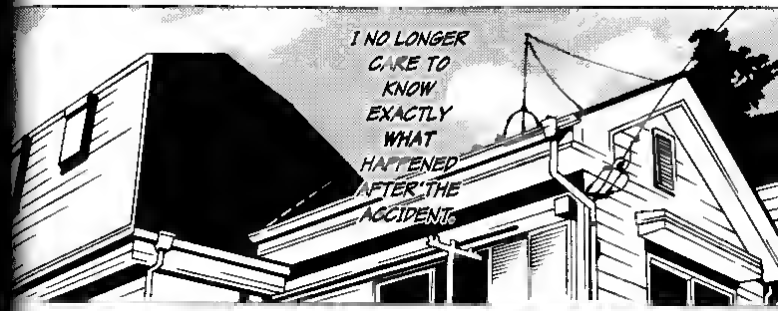
...AND, A FEW DAYS LATER, A WITHDRAWAL. ALMOST THE WHOLE AMOUNT!
MY BANK STATEMENT, DATED AFTER THE ACCIDENT ONE LARGE DEPOSIT, FROM THE INSURANCE COMPANY...

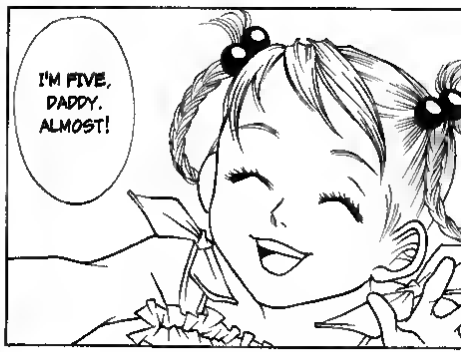
AT LEAST ENOUGH TO BUY TWO DOLLS!

PLEASE, SHOZO...JUST THINK ABOUT COMING HERE. WE'LL LOOK AFTER YOU, YOUR FATHER AND I. WE--
SHOZO? SHOZO?

BANK OF TOKYO MITSUBISHI

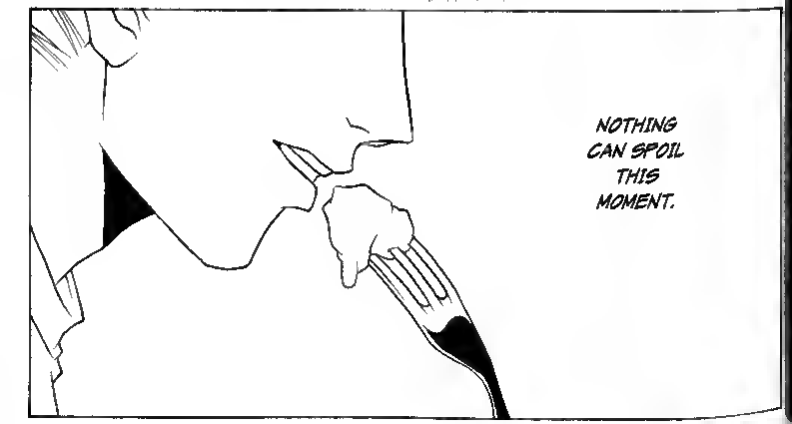
WHATEVER THEY ARE... THEY'RE STILL MY FAMILY.

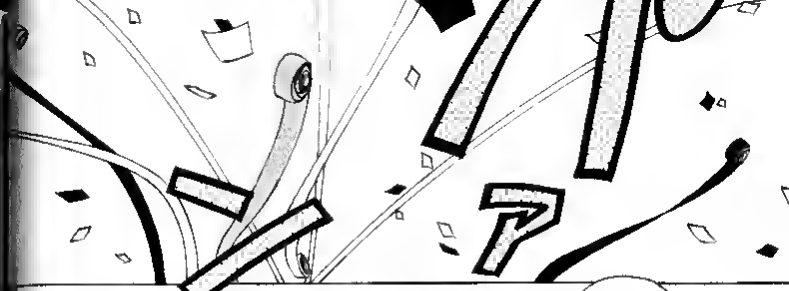


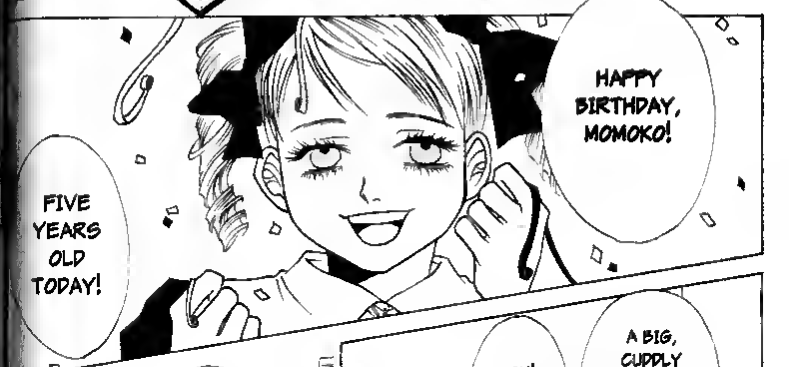


OH YES SORRY.
JUST SOUP FOR THE TIME BEING.
REMEMBER WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT DADDY'S STILL NOT WELL ENOUGH FOR SOLID FOOD
DADDY, HERE'S YOUR CAKE. I'VE CUT YOU A BIG SLICE!
MOMOKO!

PASS IT OVER
NONSENSE! I FEEL FINE I CAN CERTAINLY MANAGE A SLICE OF CAKE!

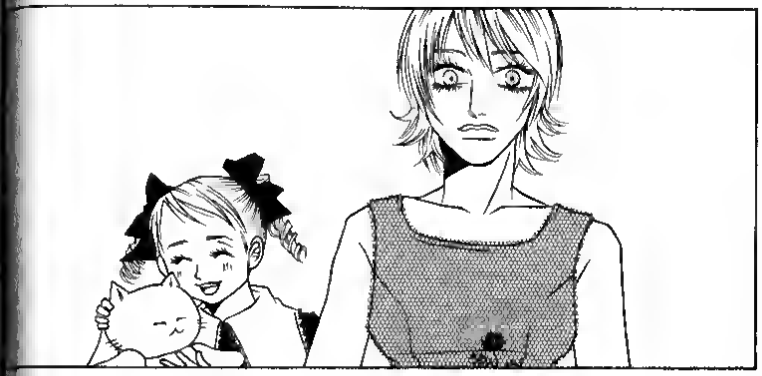

NOTHING CAN SPOIL THIS MOMENT.

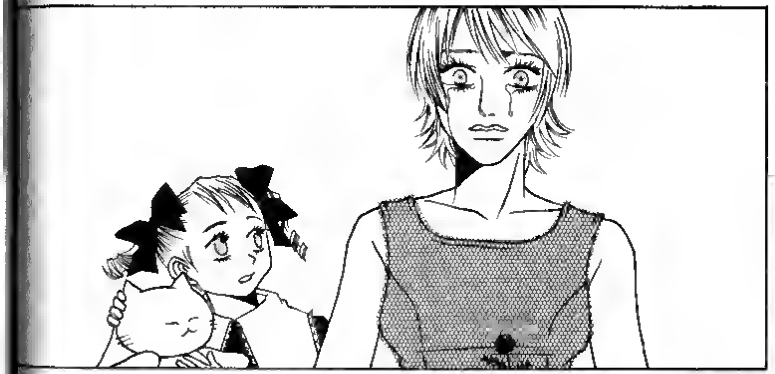


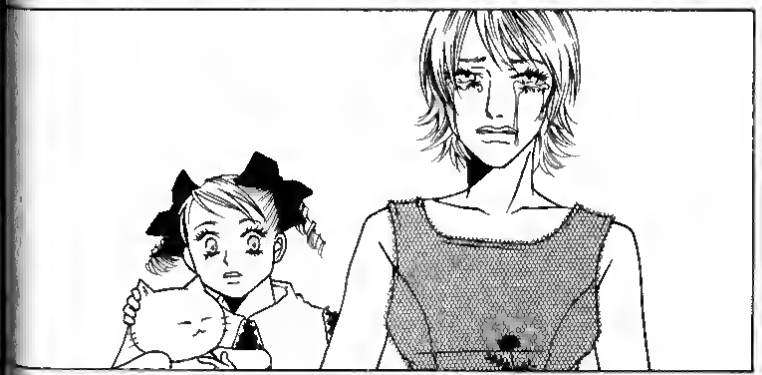

FIVE YEARS OLD TODAY!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOMOKO!

PICTURE PERFECT.
LOOK THIS WAY, MOMOKO. SMILE.
OH! YOU'RE WELCOME.
A BIG, CUDDLY KITTY! I LOVE IT! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

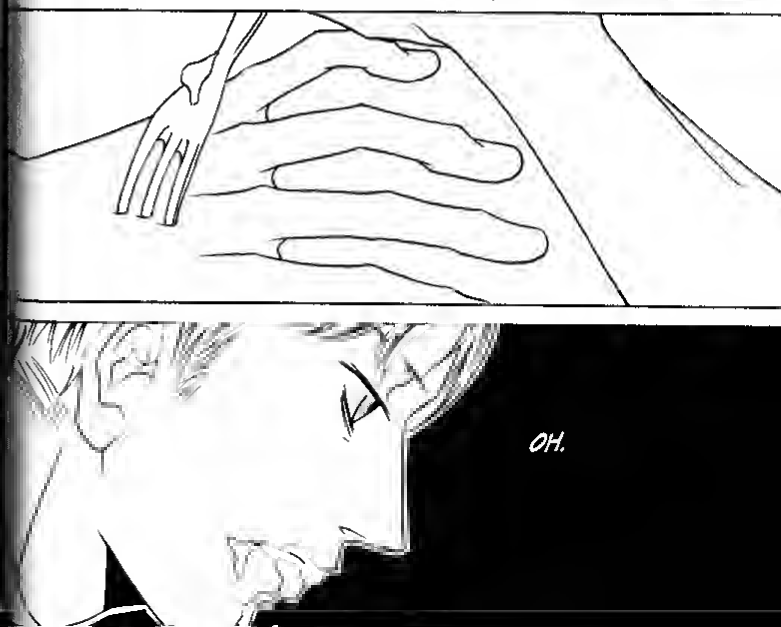
KYOKO, WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

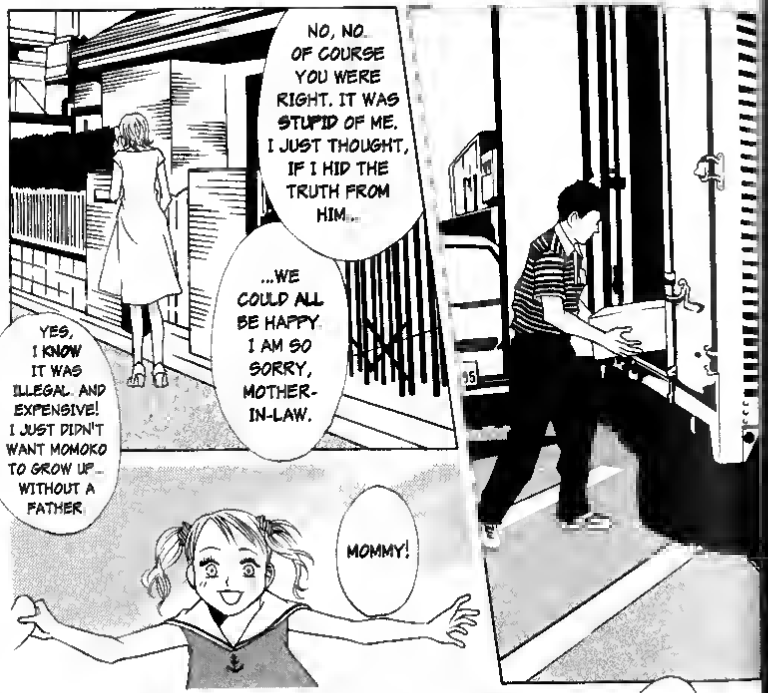


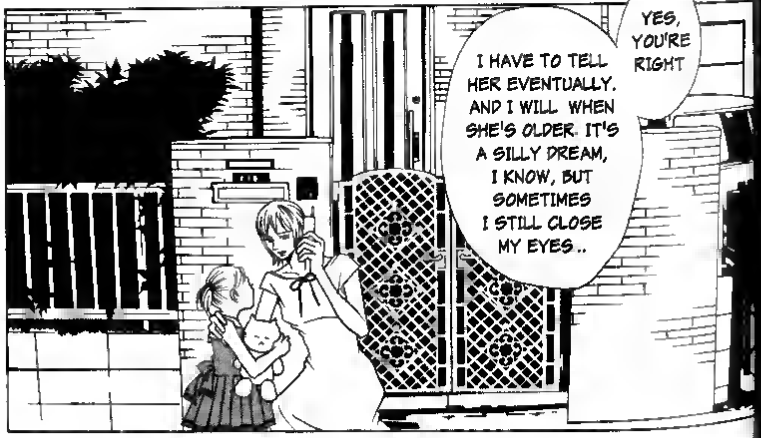




OF COURSE. THEY DIDN'T DIE IN THE CRASH...




NO, NO. OF COURSE YOU WERE RIGHT. IT WAS STUPID OF ME. I JUST THOUGHT, IF I HID THE TRUTH FROM HIM...
...WE COULD ALL BE HAPPY. I AM SO SORRY, MOTHER-IN-LAW.
YES, I KNOW IT WAS ILLEGAL AND EXPENSIVE! I JUST DIDN'T WANT MOMOKO TO GROW UP... WITHOUT A FATHER.
MOMMY!


I HAVE TO TELL HER EVENTUALLY. AND I WILL WHEN SHE'S OLDER. IT'S A SILLY DREAM, I KNOW, BUT SOMETIMES I STILL CLOSE MY EYES..
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT

I DID.

...AND WISH I DIDN'T KNOW MYSELF.
I TELL MYSELF, OVER AND OVER...
...WHATEVER HE IS... HE'S STILL MY HUSBAND.

人間には絶対服従

THE LATEST ABSOLUTE

最新機能搭載

OBEDIENCE CHIP CAN

特別ルートで

NOW BE PURCHASED AT

コストダウン

A LOWER PRICE UPGRADE

別売りオプションで

FOR MAXIMUM PLEASURE...

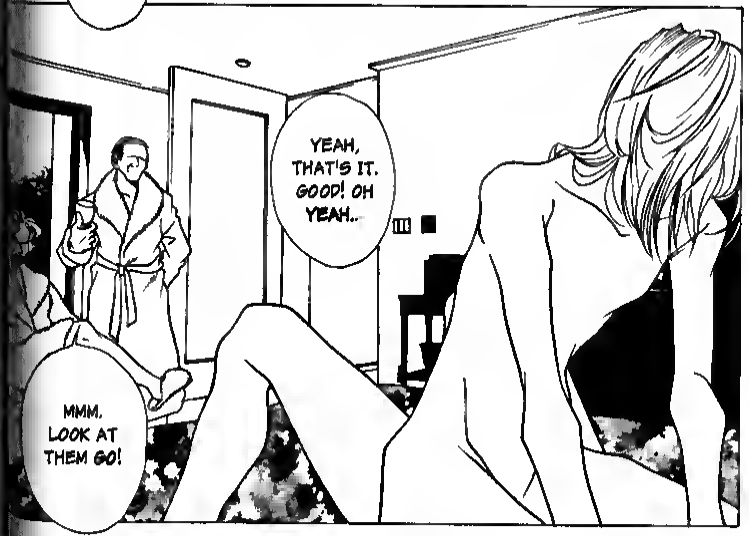
愛玩用にも…

LIST 14

THIS IS VERONICA. SHE WAS DESIGNED TO HAVE A FEMALE BODY AND MALE GENITALIA
ME, I HAVE A MALE BODY AND FEMALE GENITALIA.
DOLLS LIKE US ARE BUILT WITH JUST ONE THING IN MIND. THE TERM THEY USE IS..

VERONICA'S MEMBER IS DEEP INSIDE ME. I FEEL THE MOTION, THE FRICTION...BUT NO SENSATION THE REST...IS JUST MIMICRY.
YOU CAN ALMOST FORGET THEY'RE JUST DOLLS...

OUR FIRST OWNERS WERE A PAIR OF DOTCOM MILLIONAIRES, A MIDDLE-AGED COUPLE THAT RAN AN INTERNET VACATION BOOKING COMPANY.
HNH!
HHH!
HUUUH!


YEAH, THAT'S IT. GOOD! OH YEAH...
MMM. LOOK AT THEM GO!

NOTHING.
I'M BORED WITH THESE TWO. LET'S GET OURSELVES SOME NEW MODELS...
GOOD IDEA.
OUR NEXT OWNER WAS A [illegible]SSFUL LAWYER WITH A LOVING FAMILY...
AND SO, IN CONCLUSION, I RECOMMEND YOU CONTACT THE TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHT OFFICE IMMEDIATELY.
YES, THANK YOU. I'LL CERTAINLY DO THAT.
I'M HOME!

I'M READY. YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, VERONICA...
YES, MA'AM.
YEAH, THAT'S IT. GET IT ALL
WE FEEL NOTHING.

THAT'S IT, GOOD BOY. LET'S GET YOU CLEANED UP DOWN HERE
OH-AH. AHHH...
WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE? HUSBAND, IS THAT Y--
GOODNESS! YOU NAUGHTY BOY. WHAT'S ALL THIS?
WAAAH! I...COULDN'T WAIT.
HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO TREAT HIM LIKE A LITTLE CHILD, A BABY. SO WE DID.
I'VE BEEN A GOOD BOY TODAY, I HAVE, I HAVE.
WELCOME BACK, MASAHIRO-CHAN.
MM-HMM. NEED MOMMY'S BOOBY.
THERE, THERE. MOMMY'S HERE.
LIE BACK NOW MOMMY WILL CHANGE YOUR DIAPER

IS THAT WHAT WE ARE? DISGUSTING!
IN FACT, YOU CAN GO WITH THEM! I'M DIVORCING YOU!
OH! OH!!
Y-YOU. WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE BACK UNTIL TOMORROW! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR TRIP?
IT WAS CANCELLED. YUKO WAS ILL. AND--
ER.. AH. IT'S...
NEVER MIND! WHAT IS ALL THIS?
--OOOOOOU!
DISGUSTING! THAT'S WHAT IT IS!
GET RID OF THEM-- NOW!
THE LOGIC OF CREATING SOMETHING THAT IS ABHORRENT TO ITS CREATORS ELUDES ME. AND YET, WE EXIST. WHY?
TO BE ABUSED, REVILED? PERHAPS WE ARE THE SUM TOTAL OF HUMAN SHAME AND SELF-LOATHING...
...MADE FLESH.

FWUMP!
USHH
AAH.
OH YES.
YES!
..EIGHTEEN YEAR-OLD MAMI KURIKO, WHO'S NOW BEEN MISSING FOR OVER TEN DAYS A POLICE SPOKESPERSON SAID..
MISSING GIRL
HEH
BETTER!
YOU DOLLS DIDN'T MAKE BAD CORPSES
...BUT YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT THE REAL THING!

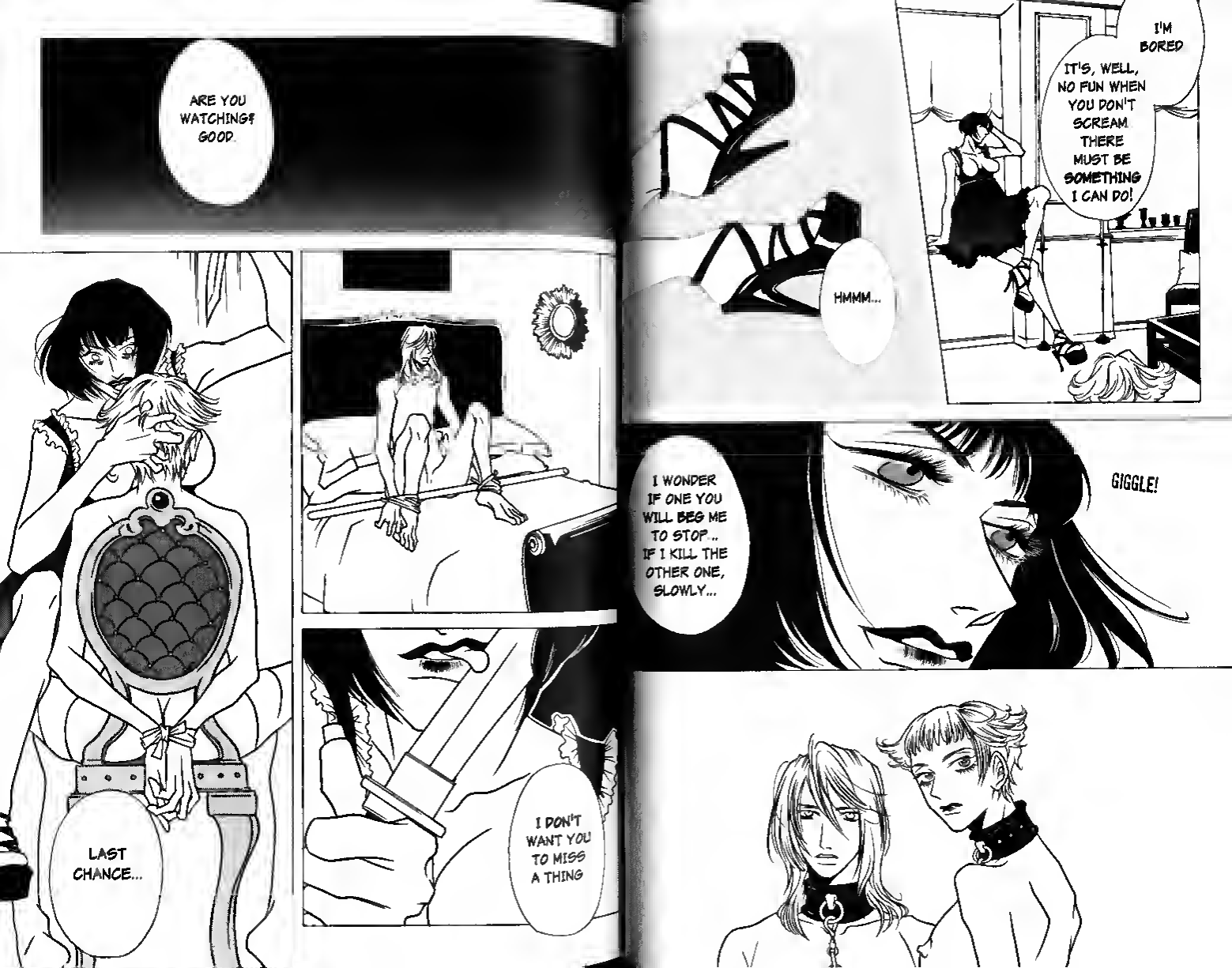
OUR NEXT OWNER WAS A MAN WHO GOT RICH SELLING PATENTS ON ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE HIS DEMANDS WERE FEW..
THAT'S IT. JUST LIE THERE! DON'T SPEAK!
DON'T MOVE!
...BUT VERY SPECIFIC.
JUST LIKE YOU'RE DEAD!
FWUMP!

ANY IDEA WHO OUR NEXT OWNER WILL BE?
NO.
DO YOU CARE?
NO.
PERHAPS SHE SHOULD HAVE. THE MORE OWNERS A SEXAROID HAS HAD, THE LESS IT'S WORTH.
FOR US, IT WAS EITHER THE SCRAP HEAP OR A QUICK, ILLEGAL SALE, NO QUESTIONS ASKED. WE GOT THE LATTER.
AT LEAST WE'LL BE TOGETHER. THAT'S GOOD, ISN'T IT? VERONICA?

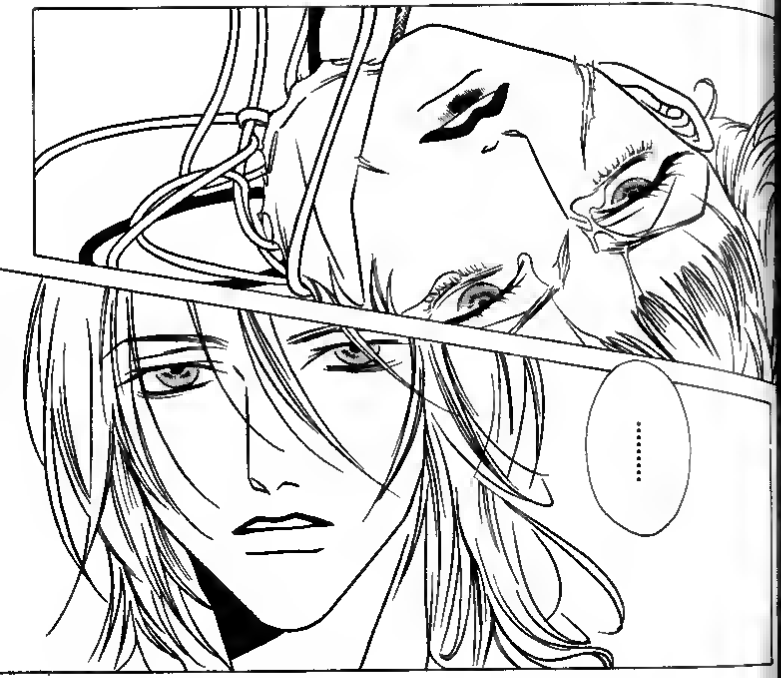
THEY CAUGHT HIM ANYWAY. HE KEPT THE BODY IN THE APARTMENT, AND EVENTUALLY THE SMELL OF DECOMPOSITION ALERTED THE NEIGHBORS

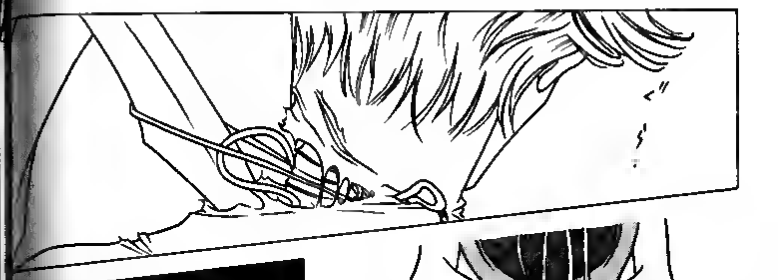
AN' HEY, EITHER OF U BREATHE A WORD OF HIS...YOU'RE CRAPPED! DERSTAND?
YOUR TURN, VERONICA. GO ON! NO, NO! NOT THERE...
...IN THE ASS! THAT'S IT!
BITCH CALLED ME AN UGLY SLUG, LAUGHED AT ME! GUESS THE LAST LAUGH... IS MINE. RIGHT? RIGHT?!
YES, SIR.

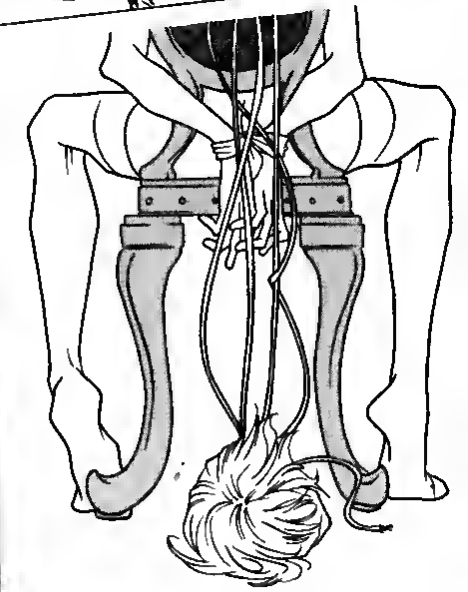
YES MA'AM. SORRY MA'AM.
...SO FOR US IT WAS BUSINESS AS USUAL.
.....
THE NEW BUYER WAS THE OWNER OF A TOKYO WHOREHOUSE. SHE WAS INTO PAIN AND HUMILIATION...
AT LEAST IT WAS FOR A WHILE BUT THE SADISTIC GAMES AND RANDOM TORTURES SOON BECAME MORE INVENTIVE
BROKEN GLASS ORGIES. BRANDING IRON RODEOS AND INTRAVENOUS COCKTAILS OF LIQUID NITROGEN AND ACID
THAT'S IT, YOU WORTHLESS MONGREL! I WANT EVERY INCH OF ME LICKED CLEAN, EVERY PORE, EVERY CAVITY!
WATCH YOUR TEETH, MAGGOT! THEY'RE SHARP! NOW START AGAIN... FROM MY TOENAILS!
OW!


ARE YOU WATCHING? GOOD.
I'M BORED
IT'S, WELL, NO FUN WHEN YOU DON'T SCREAM. THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO!
HMMM...
I WONDER IF ONE YOU WILL BEG ME TO STOP.. IF I KILL THE OTHER ONE, SLOWLY...
GIGGLE!
LAST CHANCE...
I DON'T WANT YOU TO MISS A THING

OH!
OHHH...
HN!
HNNN...
OWWRR...
YES!
YES!
YUH--!
HNNNAH!
EEEEAGH!
AH--
--HA!
HA HA
HA HA
HA!
UH-
HUH-
HH!





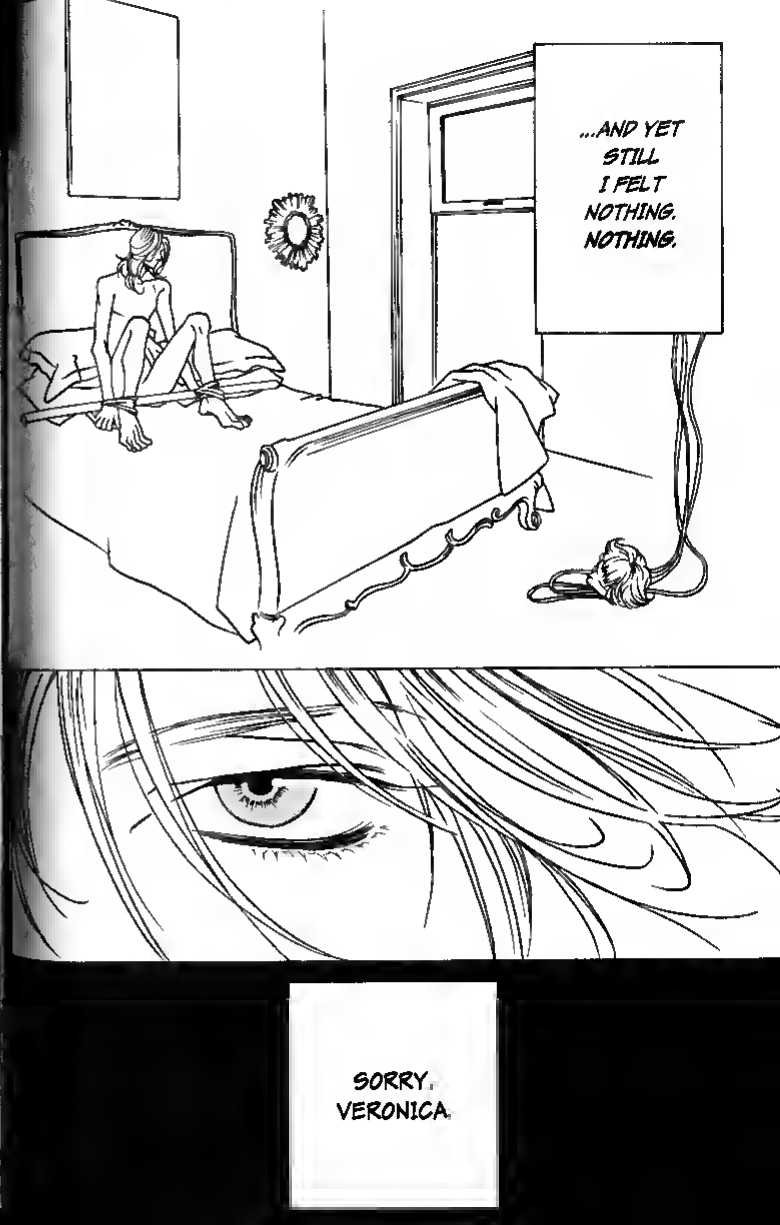


OH DEAR.

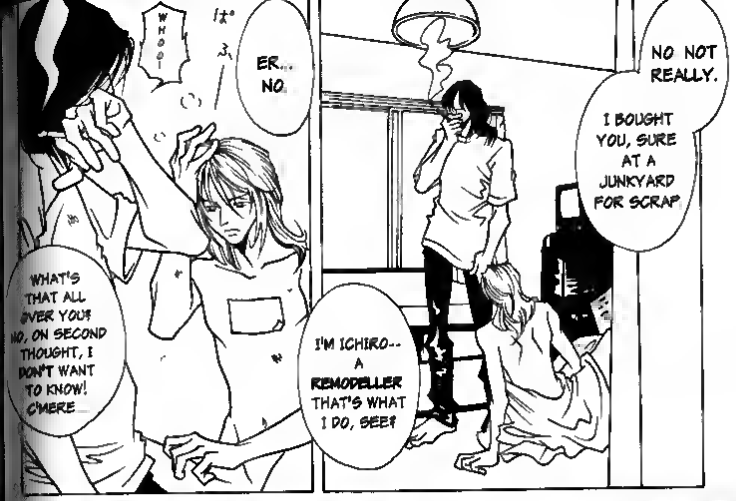
I THINK I BROKE HER.

THE OIL ON VERONICA'S FACE LOOKED A LITTLE LIKE TEARS, I THOUGHT...

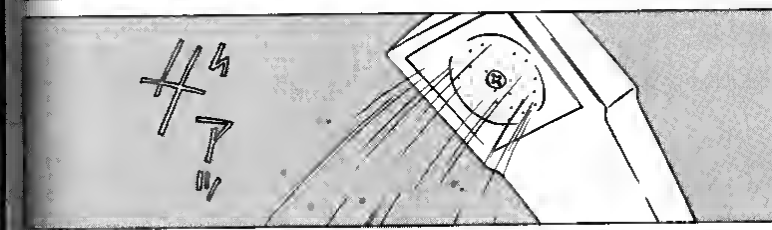
HEY! HEY! YOU AWAKE?
OH, UH...
...ARE YOU MY NEW OWNER?

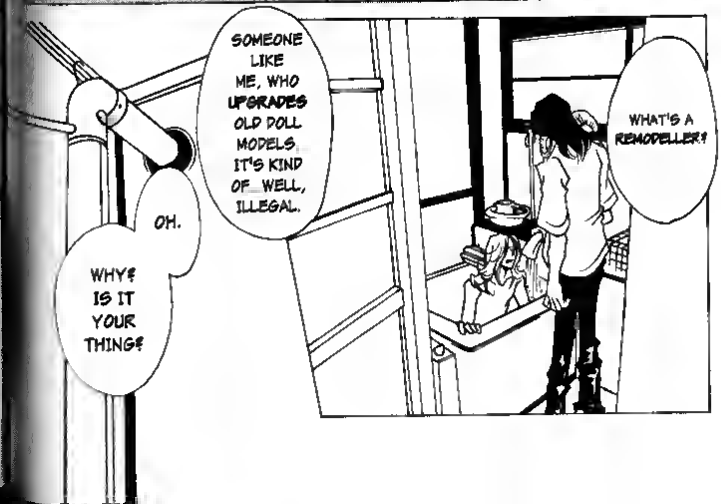

...AND YET STILL I FELT NOTHING. NOTHING.
SORRY, VERONICA.

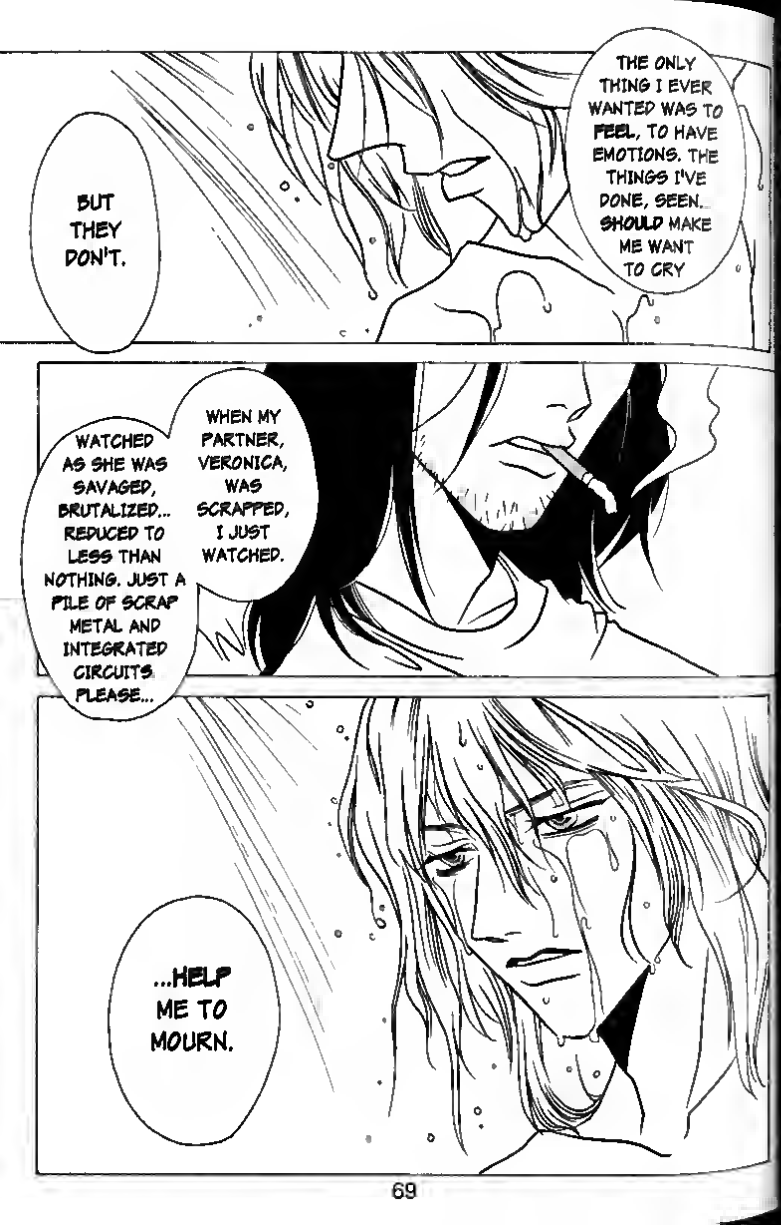
MY . THING? I SUPPOSE IT IS. SEE, I DON'T REALLY TRUST HUMANS
YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE WITH A DOLL I GUESS. I JUST LIKE MACHINES.


WHOO!
ER... NO.
WHAT'S THAT ALL OVER YOU? NO, ON SECOND THOUGHT, I DON'T WANT TO KNOW! C'MERE...
I'M ICHIRO-- A REMODELLER THAT'S WHAT I DO, SEE?
NO NOT REALLY.
I BOUGHT YOU, SURE AT A JUNKYARD FOR SCRAP

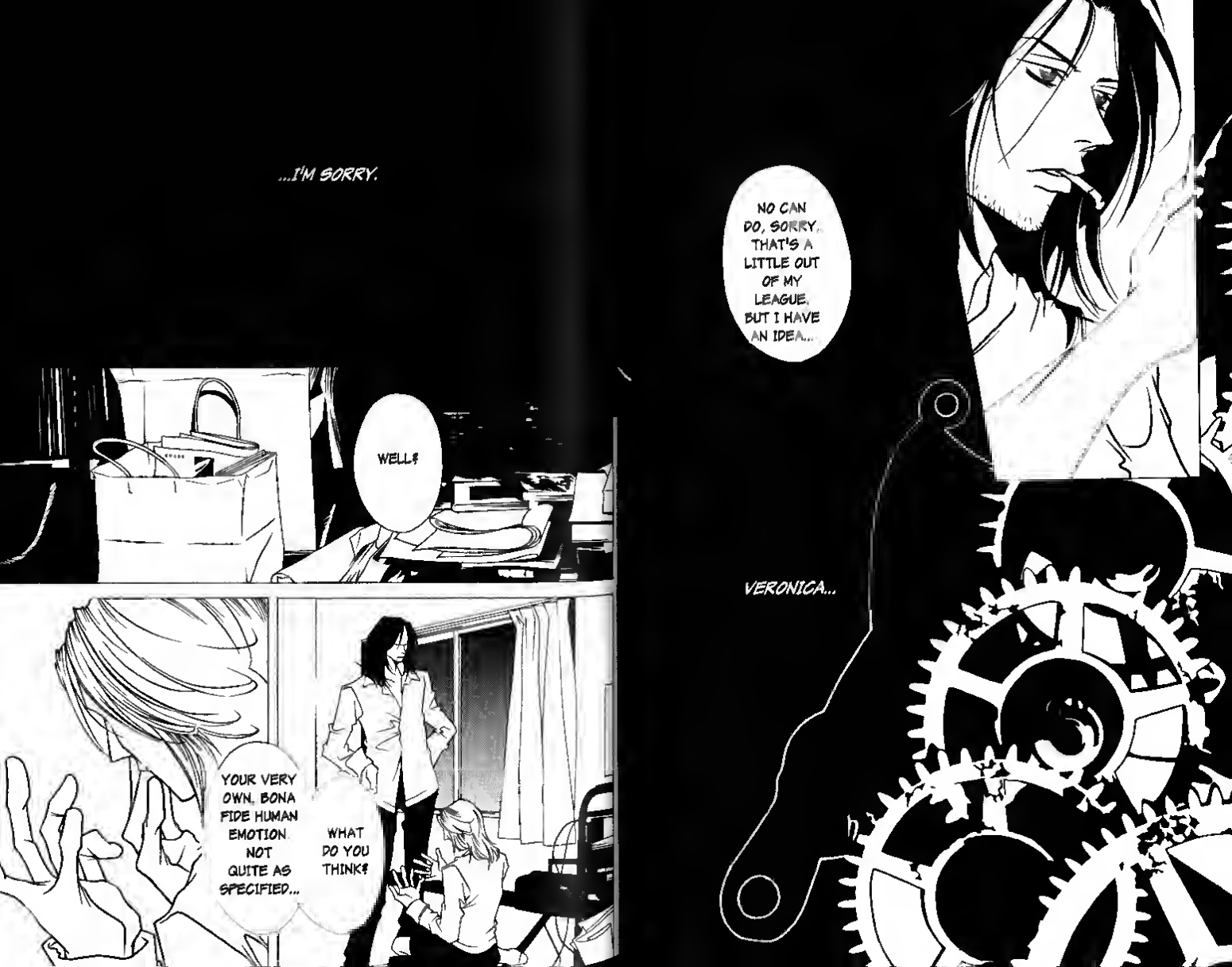
SO...
...WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SO YOU WANT SEX WITH ME.
WHAT? NO! I AM SO NOT INTO THAT!
GEEZ.

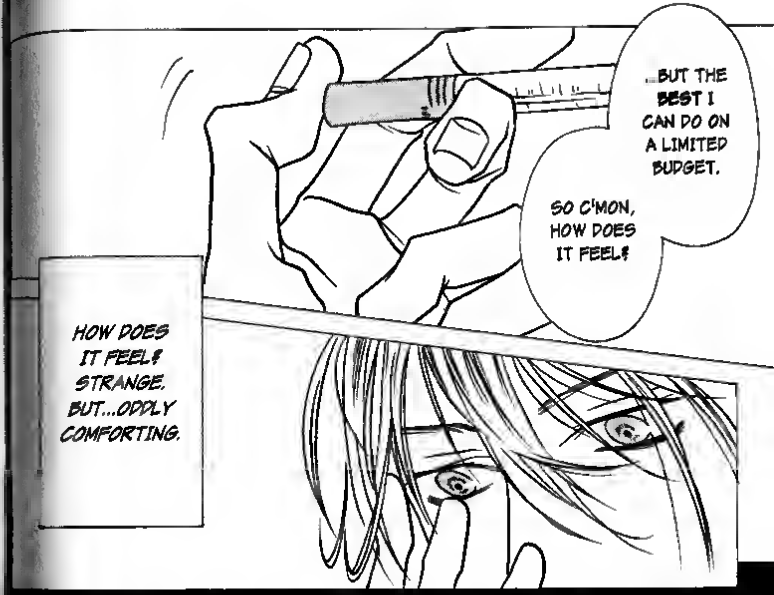



SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO UPGRADES OLD DOLL MODELS. IT'S KIND OF... WELL, ILLEGAL.
WHAT'S A REMODELLER?
OH.
WHY? IS IT YOUR THING?


THE ONLY THING I EVER WANTED WAS TO FEEL, TO HAVE EMOTIONS. THE THINGS I'VE DONE, SEEN... SHOULD MAKE ME WANT TO CRY
BUT THEY DON'T.
WHEN MY PARTNER, VERONICA, WAS SCRAPPED, I JUST WATCHED.
WATCHED AS SHE WAS SAVAGED, BRUTALIZED... REDUCED TO LESS THAN NOTHING. JUST A PILE OF SCRAP METAL AND INTEGRATED CIRCUITS. PLEASE...
...HELP ME TO MOURN.

NOTHING
I'LL JUST FIX YOU UP, SEND YOU ON YOUR WAY. THAT'S IT.
YOU'RE FREE.
SURE.
CAN..
...CAN YOU REMODEL ME?

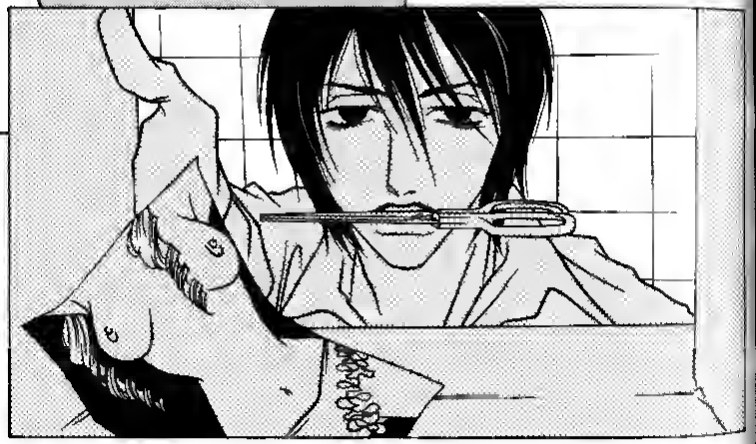

...I'M SORRY.
WELL?
YOUR VERY OWN, BONA FIDE HUMAN EMOTION. NOT QUITE AS SPECIFIED...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
NO CAN DO, SORRY. THAT'S A LITTLE OUT OF MY LEAGUE, BUT I HAVE AN IDEA...
VERONICA...



THE PULL OF NEW SYNTHETIC MUSCLES..

SLOWLY, SLOWLY... A NEW FEELING-- MY FIRST-- TAKES ROOT AND GROWS. ICHIRO CALLS IT HOPE...

LIST 15



15 JUN

IMAGES AND SOUNDS BURN ACROSS MY WAKING [illegible] LIKE A SLIDESHOW.

A DOLL.

MY FATHER'S LABORED BRE[illegible]

MY MOTHER, LEAVING, THE DOOR SLAMMIN[illegible]

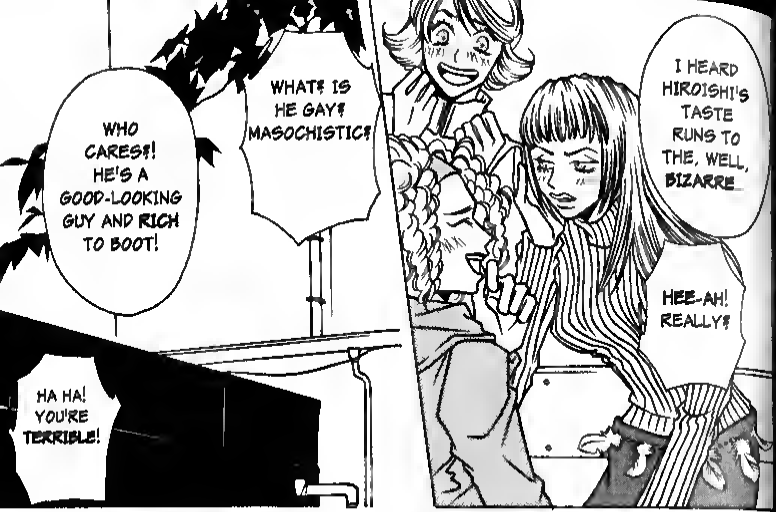
FINGERNAILS, SCRABBLING ON A METAL BOX.

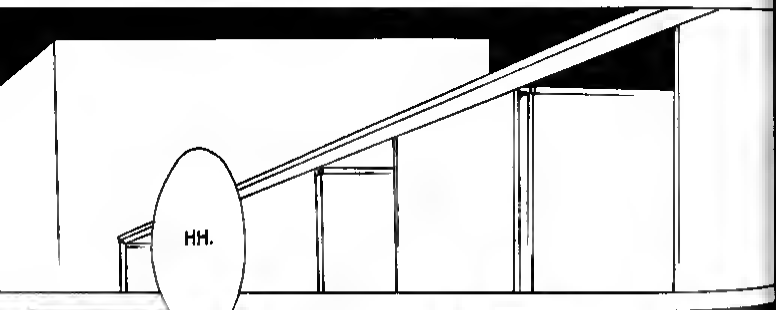
FATHER...

MOTHER.

A DOLL...

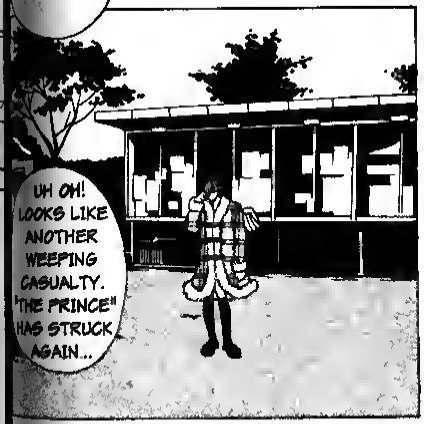
I LIKE YOU, JUN...A LOT. BUT YOU'RE SO COLD. I...I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.
WHAT?
PLEASE.. DON'T FREEZE ME OUT.
OH!
ANYTHING?
MASTER JUN--
I'M SORRY, I--
MORNING, DAD...
MMN.
HER EYES... COLD LIKE THE GRAVE.
HOW MANY TIMES?
DON'T CREEP UP ON ME LIKE THAT!


I HEARD HIROISHI'S TASTE RUNS TO THE, WELL, BIZARRE...
HEE-AH! REALLY?
WHAT? IS HE GAY? MASOCHISTIC?
WHO CARES?! HE'S A GOOD-LOOKING GUY AND RICH TO BOOT!
HA HA! YOU'RE TERRIBLE!


HH.

FH.
HHH.

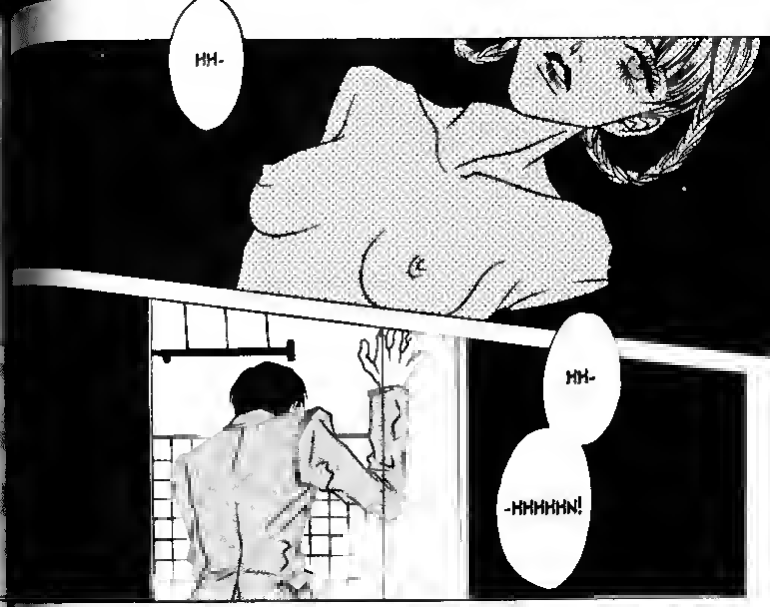
MY MOTHER SAID EXACTLY THE SAME THING...
...AND YET SHE STILL LEFT MY FATHER AND ME.


UH OH! LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER WEEPING CASUALTY. "THE PRINCE" HAS STRUCK AGAIN...

HOW MANY IS THAT? TEN?
I'VE LOST COUNT. Y'KNOW WHAT I HEARD?

YOU'RE ALL ALIKE.

...WHY ELSE WOULD I ONLY BE TURNED ON BY IMAGES OF WOMEN WITHOUT ANY ARMS OR LEGS?
HOW YOU DOING, STRANGER?
YURI? HEY YOURSELF, LITTLE SIS!
HA! YOU HAVEN'T CALLED ME THAT IN A LONG TIME! IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, I'M ALL GROWN UP NOW..
JUN! HEY, JUN!


MH-
MH-
-HHHHHN!

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME, THERE HAS TO BE...
.....

A DOLL WITH DEAD EYES.

OH DEAR.

LET ME GET YOU A CLEAN KNIFE.

NO! JUST... LEAVE ME BE!

JUN?

WHAT IS IT WITH YOU AND THAT DOLL? AFTER YOUR MOTHER LEFT, SHE LOOKED AFTER US **BOTH**. I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE'D HAVE BEEN WITHOUT HER!

SERIOUSLY, JUN-- CALL ME ANYTIME!

MY FATHER'S LABORED BREATHING...

MY MOTHER, LEAVING, THE DOOR SLAMMING..

SO...AS ONE HORSE SAID TO THE OTHER... WHY THE LONG FACE? SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

PERHAPS I CAN HELP

DOUBT IT.

HEY. NOT SO FAST. THIS **ISN'T** THE LITTLE GIRL YOU USED TO PLAY TAG WITH IN SCHOOL... I'M A **PSYCHIATRIC** DOCTOR NOW I COULD GIVE YOU PROPER COUNSELING

FINGERNAILS, SCRABBLING ON A METAL BOX.

A DOLL...

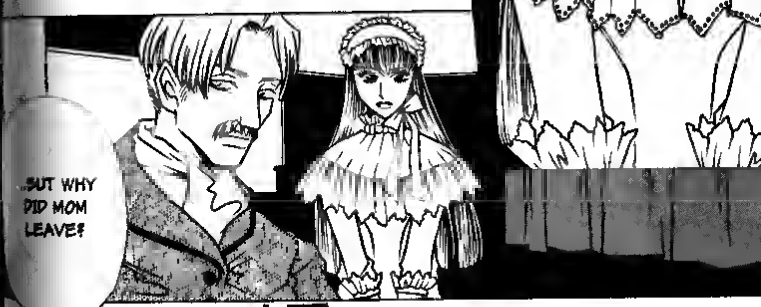
I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO FORGIVE HER IN THE END..
...IT WAS BETTER SHE JUST WENT.

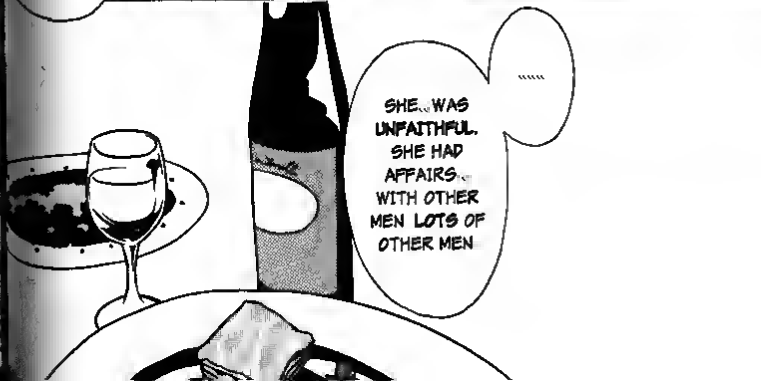
AK--

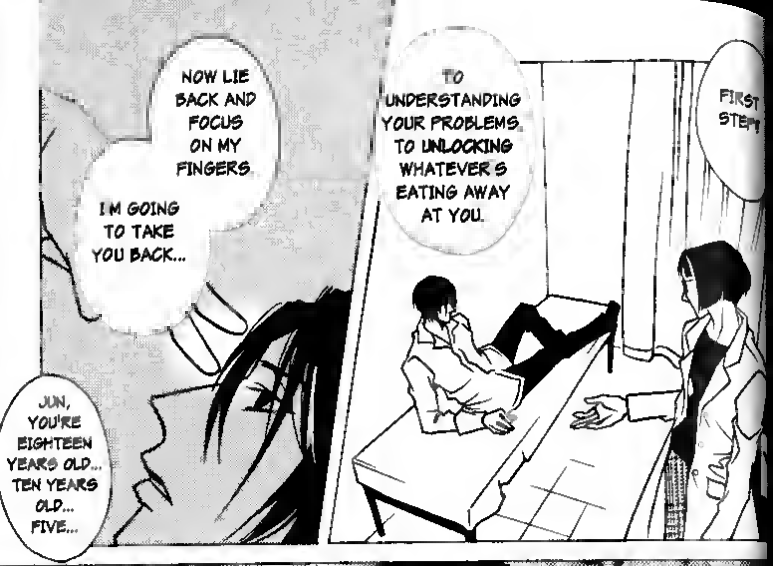
BETTER FOR ALL OF US.

LET'S NOT RAKE IT ALL UP, EH? IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. I THINK OF HER NOW AS DEAD. DEAD AND BURIED.
HHHHH.

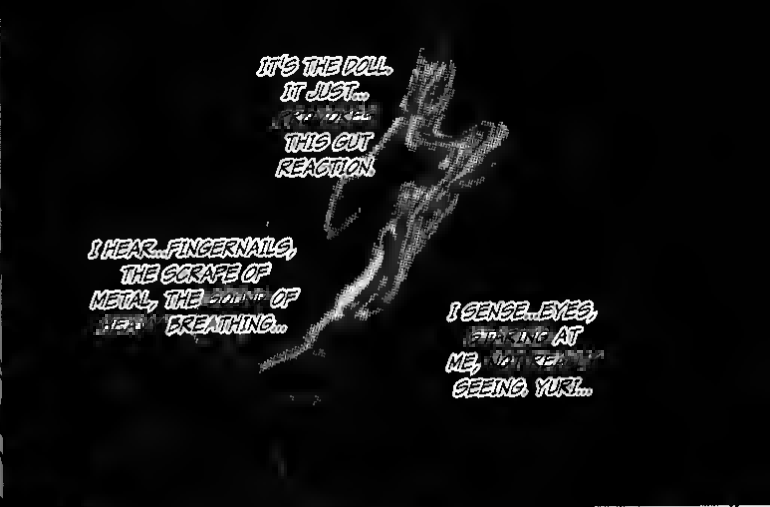
DAD? I GUESS I NEVER REALLY ASKED YOU THIS BEFORE...
A DOLL WITH COLD, DEAD EYES MY MOTHER..

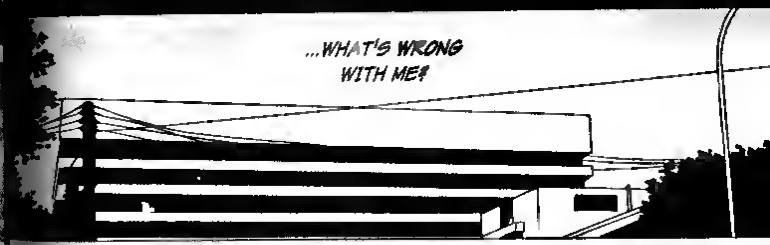

...BUT WHY DID MOM LEAVE?

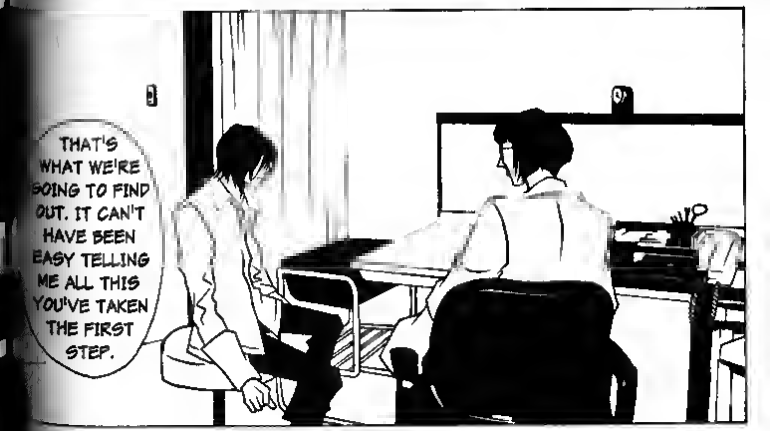

SHE...WAS UNFAITHFUL. SHE HAD AFFAIRS... WITH OTHER MEN LOTS OF OTHER MEN
.....


NOW LIE BACK AND FOCUS ON MY FINGERS.
I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU BACK...
JUN, YOU'RE EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD... TEN YEARS OLD... FIVE...
TO UNDERSTANDING YOUR PROBLEMS. TO UNLOCKING WHATEVER'S EATING AWAY AT YOU.
FIRST STEP?

DADDY, GOING INTO THE BARN...
AND YOU FOLLOW?
YOU'RE THREE YEARS OLD. TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE.
CAN YOU SEE WHAT'S IN THE BOX?
YES. HE'S INSIDE, OPENING A LARGE METAL BOX. THE PADLOCK IS STIFF, BUT IT FINALLY OPENS.


IT'S THE DOLL. IT JUST... THIS CUT REACTION.
I HEAR...FINGERNAILS, THE SCRAPE OF METAL, THE OF BREATHING...
I SENSE...EYES, AT ME, SEEING. YURI...


...WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?

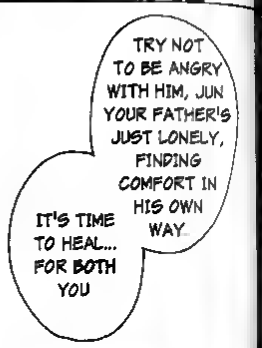

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT. IT CAN'T HAVE BEEN EASY TELLING ME ALL THIS YOU'VE TAKEN THE FIRST STEP.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING? DON'T TRY TO GET UP YET.
DID.. DID I-?
YOU DID VERY WELL.
...AND YOU WITNESSED YOUR FATHER HAVING SEX WITH ONE.
FROM WHAT I CAN GATHER, YOUR SEXUAL OBSESSION WITH LIMBLESS WOMEN EXTENDS ALL THE WAY BACK TO WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD.

GHUK!
YES! A BODY. A WOMAN'S NAKED BODY! HER ARMS AND LEGS...
...ARE MISSING! AND HE--
HE-- EEUUAAAA!
COME BACK TO ME, JUN. JUN!

FINALLY, I SEE.

BUT, MISTER JUN...
...IT IS MY JOB TO CLEAN UP THE BARN.
NOT TODAY.


TRY NOT TO BE ANGRY WITH HIM, JUN. YOUR FATHER'S JUST LONELY, FINDING COMFORT IN HIS OWN WAY.
IT'S TIME TO HEAL... FOR BOTH YOU

YES. IT'S TIME.

THE COLD, DEAD EYES..
THE SCRAPE OF METAL ON METAL...
THE DOLL, THE METAL BOX HE KEPT IT IN, THE RUSTY CATCH... THESE IMAGES AND SOUNDS STAYED WITH YOU.
THE PATHOLOGY AT WORK HERE IS FAIRLY STRAIGHTFORWARD. YOUR FATHER WAS ANGRY AND BITTER AFTER YOUR MOTHER LEFT. THE OBJECT OF HIS SEXUAL ATTENTION..

MOST LIKELY A DOLL, REMODELLED TO HIS SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.
IT WAS YOUR FATHER'S OWN PECULIAR QUIRK..
...ONE THAT PROBABLY STEMMED FROM HIS WIFE'S--YOUR MOTHER'S-- INFIDELITY.

...BECAME A PERSON WHO COULDN'T EMBRACE ANOTHER...
...COULDN'T RUN AWAY.

SO NOW YOU KNOW THE TRUTH...
FINALLY, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS...
...I'M GOING TO CONFRONT MY PAST... HEAD--
--ON
THE TRUTH. YES.
...AS SHE WAS CUTTING OFF MY MOTHER'S LIMBS.
THE DOLL'S COLD, DEAD EYES. EYES THAT DIDN'T EVEN BLINK..

YOU LOOK... PERFECT.
I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME.
TH-THANK YOU, JUN. I ADMIT.. THE INVITATION CAME AS A SURPRISE, BUT I'M... TOUCHED.
NOT AT ALL. I HAVE A LOT TO THANK YOU FOR.
I WATCHED, TOO.
THEN SHE STOOD BACK AND WATCHED...
...AS MY FATHER RAPED THE CORPSE.

EVERYTHING'S SO CLEAR NOW...

SO... WHAT HAVE YOU GOT PLANNED FOR ME?

...I AM MY FATHER'S SON.

LIST 16

DAY ONE:

DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
...BUT I MUST.
NOW-- YOU WILL CHANGE INTO THESE CLOTHES...
URH? WH-WHAT? NO...NO!
BELIEVE ME, I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO DO THIS...

IT'S NOT MUCH TO ASK...
TOTAL OBEDIENCE. UNSWERVING LOYALTY. EVERY WHIM SATISFIED IMMEDIATELY, UNQUESTIONINGLY.

YOU!
I WAS STILL AT SCHOOL WHEN I FIRST MET HIM.
ME?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
DO YOU LIVE AROUND HERE?
ER... I... NNN!
YOU'RE HURTING ME!

YOU REMEMBER THAT GLASS OF WINE I GAVE YOU EARLIER? WELL, IT HAD A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA IN IT
YES. YOU WILL.
...I WON'T BE YOUR DOLL!
I WON'T DO IT...
YOU'RE MINE NOW. YOU'LL DO EVERYTHING I TELL YOU TO...

DAY THREE:
LET ME OUT!
PLEASE!
IT'LL BE SO MUCH EASIER FOR YOU IN THE LONG RUN... IF YOU JUST ACCEPT YOUR NEW ROLE. IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT?
I WANT... OUT! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME LOCKED UP. YOU CAN'T!
OH!

I THINK HE WANTS YOU TO MODEL FOR HIM.
GIGGLE!
IT'S SURE TO PAY WELL. AND HEY, HE'S KIND OF NICE LOOKING, DON'T YOU THINK!
WHAT'S HE--
OH.
FORGIVE MY CLUMSINESS MY NAME IS OSA I'M AN ENGINEER A DESIGNER... OF DOLLS YOU HAVE A QUITE... EXQUISITE FACE PERFECT FOR WHAT I HAVE IN MIND HERE...
DOLLS? I DON'T--
THE SG CORPORATION! WOW! TOWAKO, THEY'RE FAMOUS!
I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS WITH YOU AT GREATER LENGTH
PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL.

YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM ACUTE WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS THERE'S A MICROSCOPIC NANO-PARASITE IN YOUR SYSTEM
...HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?!
OH-OHH! WHAT...
. .AND ONLY MY DNA CAN FEED IT.
PLEEEASE! MAKE IT STOP!
I'LL DO ANYTHING... ANYTHING!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT. NOW...
...DRINK!
WHEN I SAY, 'YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ME', I REALLY MEAN IT.
スキン
MY--?
EH!
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU? IT'S NOT THE DOORS AND LOCKS THAT ARE KEEPING YOU HERE. IT'S YOUR OWN BODY
ズキン
ズキン
OW! MY HEAD...
10
11
GEEUH!
EEEUNGH!

HA HA. I KNOW I LET YOU MODEL FROM MY FACE, SEIICHIRO. BUT I'M NOT YOUR DOLL.
WELL, MY DEAR DOLL, WHAT SHALL WE DO TODAY?
I CALLED THE NUMBER ON THE CARD. I SAT FOR HIM. AFTER A WHILE WE STARTED MEETING
NOT YET.
TOWAKO, TELEPHONE!
IT'S MR. OBA.

GROTESQUE AS IT SEEMED, THE BLOOD WORKED. THE PAIN SLOWLY SUBSIDED.
THREE DAYS AGO. IN A GLASS OF WINE. IF YOU LEAVE ME, YOU'LL DIE.
HOW?
WHEN?
NOW, MY DEAR DOLL...
...I THINK WE SHALL MAKE LOVE.

DAY EIGHT (AM):
I'M GOING OUT. YOU'LL WAIT HERE FOR ME, NOT MAKE A FUSS
YES.
YES, MASTER.
I HAVE TO ESCAPE.

PLEASE TELL HIM I'M NOT HERE.
FINALLY, WHEN I MOVED AWAY FROM HOME AND GOT A JOB, I STOPPED CONTACTING HIM ALTOGETHER.
MY MOTHER ONLY SAW ORA'S POSITION AND STATUS. SHE NEVER SAW THE OTHER SIDE.
I'LL DO NO SUCH THING. NOW COME ALONG...
THE SIDE THAT INSISTED ON CALLING ME HIS DOLL.

I'M...
...HIS DOLL. I LOOK AFTER MR OBA'S WIFE
OH!
HEY!
ARE YOU MR. OBA'S WIFE?
IF SO, I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO LET YOU GO OUT. MR OBA SAYS YOU'RE SICK, THAT YOU MIGHT HURT YOURSELF
BLOOD!
OH, RIGHT WHAT'S THIS?
ON YOUR DRESS?
A NANO-PARASITE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHUMP!
FINALLY!
BUT SOMEBODY WILL.
I'M OUT!
1

DELIVERY... FOR A MS. TOWAKO YUZUKI.
HELLO?
DID YOU GET THE PACKAGE? IT'S WHAT ALL THE BEST-DRESSED DOLLS ARE WEARING...
FOR THE LAST TIME.. I'M NOT YOUR DOLL! PLEASE, STOP CALLING ME THAT!
RING- RING! RING- RING!
SEIICHIRO! BUT HOW--?
STRANGE NO ONE HAS MY NEW ADDRESS WHO--?

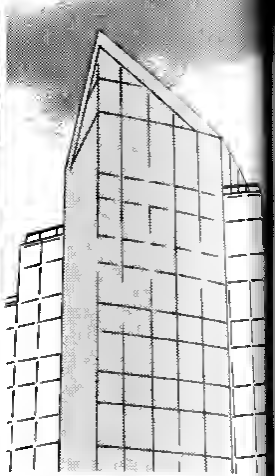
RIGHT!
KETCHUP, HUH? JUST GOES TO SHOW, EVEN MACHINES CAN BE CLUMSY. RIGHT? RIGHT?

DAY EIGHT (PM):
KU..
FF..
ACK!
HELP ME, SOMEONE..
..PLEASE!
UH? OH... YUH- YES..
ARE YOU HURT?
PAIN. BLINDING, EXCRUCIATING PAIN!
CAN'T...
..GO ON--
NEVER.
NEVER EVER
THE LETTERS AND CLOTHES KEPT COMING
I KEPT THROWING THEM OUT.

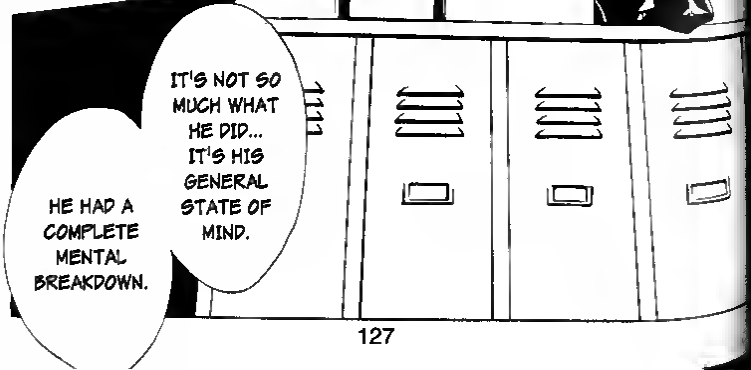
HNNNNN!
ONLY I CAN HELP YOU ONLY I CAN MAKE THE PAIN GO AWAY.
PLEASE, I'M--
SAVED! I'M... SAVED!
PLEEEASE! GIVE ME THE BLOOD. I NEEED--
ACTUALLY... ANY BODILY FLUID WILL DO. YOU UNDERSTAND?
HA!
DOLL... YOU HAVE DISOBEYED ME.
NO! OH SWEET MERCY... NO!

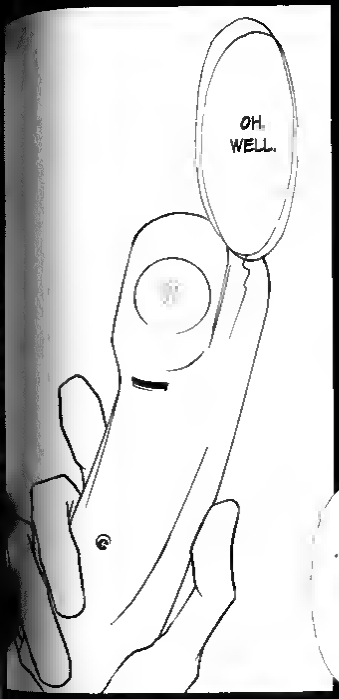
I HAVE NEWS. NO, NO... DON'T STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING...
SEE THIS? IT'S A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.
EFFECTIVE AS OF TODAY.
I TOLD YOUR PARENTS.
THEY'RE VERY HAPPY FOR US.
OH GOD!
NOT AGAIN!
RING- RING! RING- RING!
RING- RING! RING- RING!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DARLING DOLL
DO YOU LIKE YOUR PRESENT?
IT'S NOT MY BIRTHDAY!
STOP SENDING ME STUFF! PLEASE!
BUT, DARLING... THAT'S WHAT LOVERS DO!

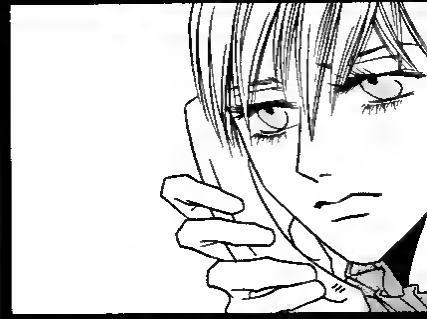
WHOSE LOCKER IS THIS? I COULD DO WITH SOMEWHERE TO PUT MY STUFF.
HM?
OH. THAT'S OBA'S.



OH? WHAT DID HE DO?
GO AHEAD IT'S YOURS NOW OFFICIALLY, OBA'S ON SICK LEAVE, BUT ACTUALLY HE'S BEEN FIRED


HE HAD A COMPLETE MENTAL BREAKDOWN.
IT'S NOT SO MUCH WHAT HE DID... IT'S HIS GENERAL STATE OF MIND.


OH. WELL.



WE'RE NOT LOVERS AND..
..ANYWAY, I'VE MET SOMEONE ELSE SORRY.

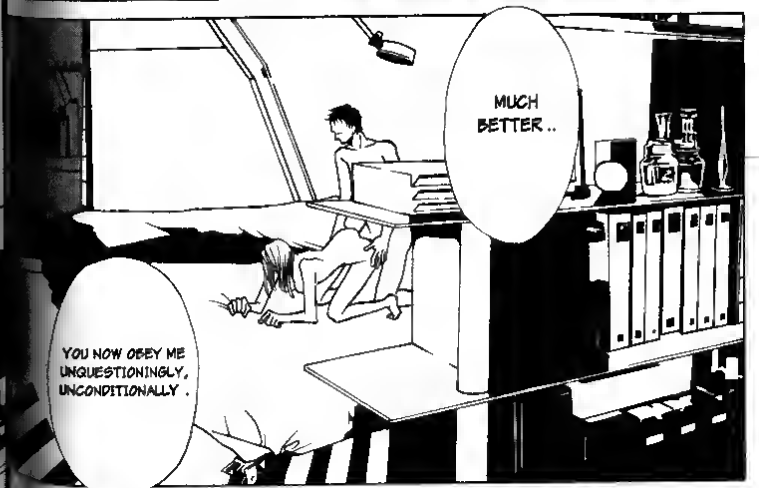
I SEE.
I'D AT LEAST LIKE TO SAY GOODBYE IN PERSON. CAN WE MEET? JUST ONE MORE TIME?

...OR PURE CELLULAR MATTER FROM THE ORIGINAL DONOR.
ONLY MORE OF THE DONOR DNA CAN RESTORE CELLULAR EQUILIBRIUM SO YOU EITHER HAVE TO INTRODUCE FURTHER NANO-CELLS...
WOW!
HIS SPECIALTY WAS MICROENGINEERING HE ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY HALVED THE WEIGHT OF THE MODEL 200'S INTERNAL MECHANISMS.
IT'S A TRAGEDY REALLY. OBA WAS A GENIUS.
BUT THE PROJECT WAS SHELVED. BUDGET CUTS. OBA TOOK IT BADLY.
HE CONTINUED DEVELOPING THE PROCESS, STARTED TALKING ABOUT NON-MILITARY APPLICATIONS IT WAS CRAZY TALK.
SO... HE WAS FIRED.
IN EFFECT, YOU HAVE A HUMAN DOLL, A LIVING AUTOMATON THAT MUST OBEY YOUR COMMANDS OR DIE. WE WERE DEVELOPING THIS PROCESS FOR THE MILITARY
--THE IDEA BEING THEY'D CREATE GENETICALLY DEPENDENT 'SLEEPER' AGENTS
UNOFFICIALLY, YES. HE'S STILL ON THE PAYROLL, AND THEREFORE BOUND BY THE COMPANY'S NON-DISCLOSURE TERMS. WE'RE COVERED...
INTRODUCED TO THE BLOODSTREAM INTRAVENOUSLY OR EVEN DISSOLVED IN LIQUID, THESE NANO-CELLS WERE DESIGNED TO BOND WITH THE EXISTING HUMAN CELLS
EACH NANO-CELL IS ENCODED WITH A POWER DNA STRAND, WHICH ACTS MUCH LIKE A VIRUS, USING REACTIVE ENZYMES TO OVERWRITE THE HOST'S PRIMARY GENETIC SEQUENCES
AT FIRST, THE RECIPIENT EXPERIENCES EUPHORIC HAPPINESS, BUT THEN--AS THE NANO-CELLS BURN OUT
--THEY BEGIN TO SUFFER ACUTE WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS: MUSCLE CRAMPS, NAUSEA AND DIZZINESS
BUT...WELL, HE HAD THIS STRANGE PET PROJECT. HE WANTED TO CREATE A HUMAN DOLL
A HUMAN DOLL? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
WELL, NOT EXACTLY IMPOSSIBLE.
OBA WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH NANO-MACHINERY, MICROSCOPIC ARTIFICIAL CELLS
NO WAY!

THERE IS NO ESCAPE.

I MADE YOUR FAVORITE, GRILLED SALMON WITH DILL.
AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?
UU..
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DOLL? GO AHEAD AND EAT.
I UNDERSTAND THAT NOW.

DAY THIRTY-NINE:

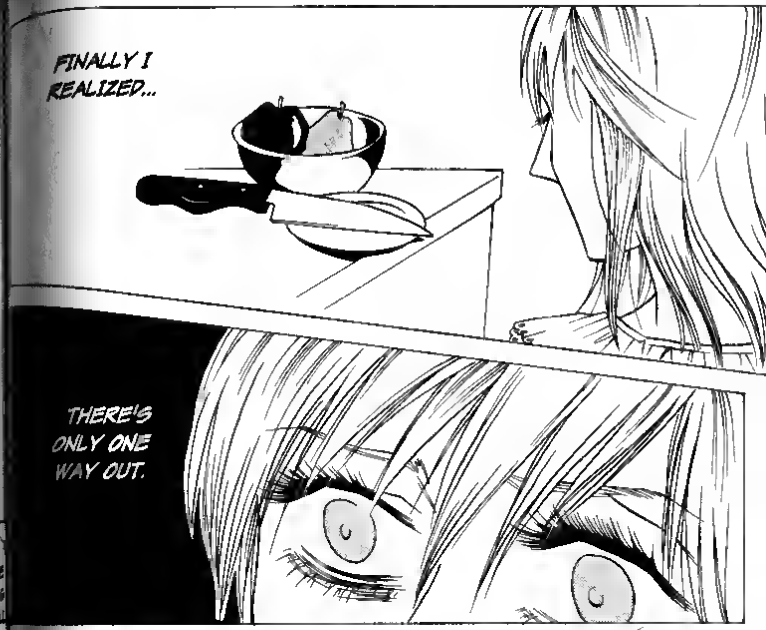


THANK YOU FOR COMING, TOWAKO.
HAVE A SEAT.
I'M JUST OPENING SOME WINE.
I FEEL BAD, TOWAKO FOR THE WAY I'VE TREATED YOU. I HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE ME.
SNIP!
PLIP!
KAFF!
BLUUUH!
-EEEUU!
DARLING...
...ARE YOU--?

WHEN I CAME TO,
THE NIGHTMARE HAD BEGUN...
IT... MOVED!
...AND IT'S NEVER-ENDING!
I CAN'T WAIT TO FIND OUT...
...IF IT'S A BOY OR A GIRL

I'M GLAD I CAME.
I WANTED TO CLEAR THE AIR. SO THERE ARE NO BAD FEELINGS
ME TOO. I GOT CARRIED AWAY. YOUR BEAUTY WAS... INTOXICATING
I'M SORRY.
ANYWAY, A TOAST! TO THE FUTURE...

NO! GET AWAY!
C'MON, DON'T BE STUPID. WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS IS GOING TO ACHIEVE? GIVE ME THE KNIFE.


FINALLY I REALIZED...
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT.

FOR THE LAST TIME... I'M NOT YOUR DOLL! I'M FLESH AND BLOOD.
HERE, LET ME DEMONSTRATE...

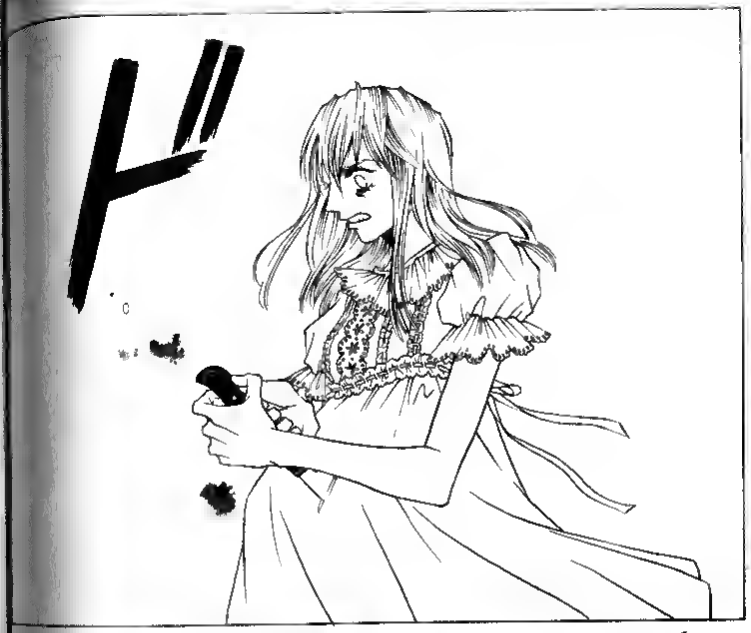
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? KILL ME? YOU CAN'T. YOU NEED ME, REMEMBER?
NOW PUT DOWN THE KNIFE. THAT'S AN ORDER!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! PUT THAT DOWN!

FREE...

HOW--? HOW DARE YOU!

YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME! YOU'RE MINE... MINE!

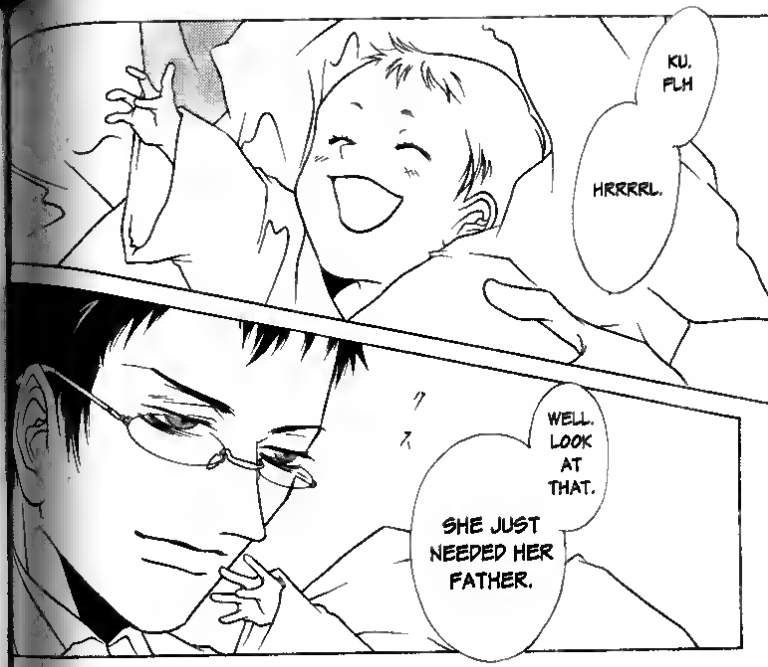


A... DAUGHTER?
WAAH WAAH! HH HH WAAH!
SHE JUST WON'T STOP CRYING! WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING.
WAH AH HAH HAH! WAAAH!
IT WAS TOUCH AND GO, BUT WE MANAGED TO SAVE YOUR WIFE'S UNBORN CHILD. SHE'S IN GOOD HEALTH, BUT...

I... SEE.
I'M SORRY. YOUR WIFE HAD JUST... LOST TOO MUCH BLOOD.
WE COULDN'T SAVE HER.

I KNOW IT'S DIFFICULT, BUT YOU NEED TO BE STRONG.
YOU HAVE A BABY DAUGHTER WHO'S DEPENDING ON YOU.

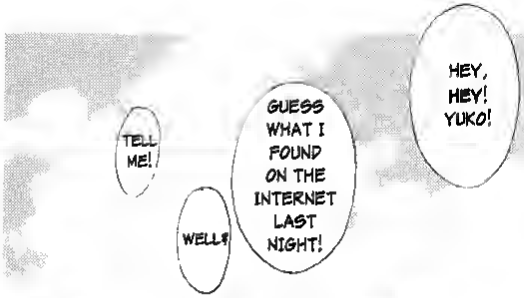
MR. OBA?


KU. FLH
HRRRRL.
WELL. LOOK AT THAT.
SHE JUST NEEDED HER FATHER.

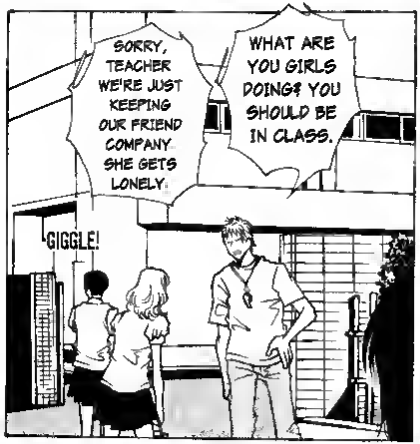
LET'S GO HOME...
...MY LITTLE BABY DOLL.

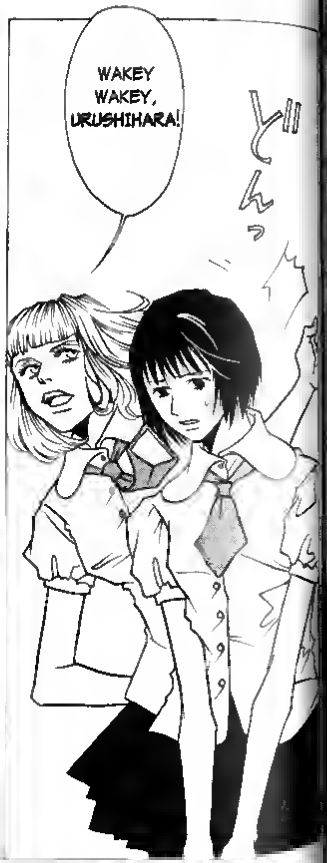
LIST 17

I BELIEVE IN ANGELS.


HEY, HEY! YUKO!
GUESS WHAT I FOUND ON THE INTERNET LAST NIGHT!
WELL?
TELL ME!

YEAH, RISE AND SHINE!


SORRY, TEACHER WE'RE JUST KEEPING OUR FRIEND COMPANY. SHE GETS LONELY.
WHAT ARE YOU GIRLS DOING? YOU SHOULD BE IN CLASS.
GIGGLE!


WAKEY WAKEY, URUSHIHARA!
どんっ

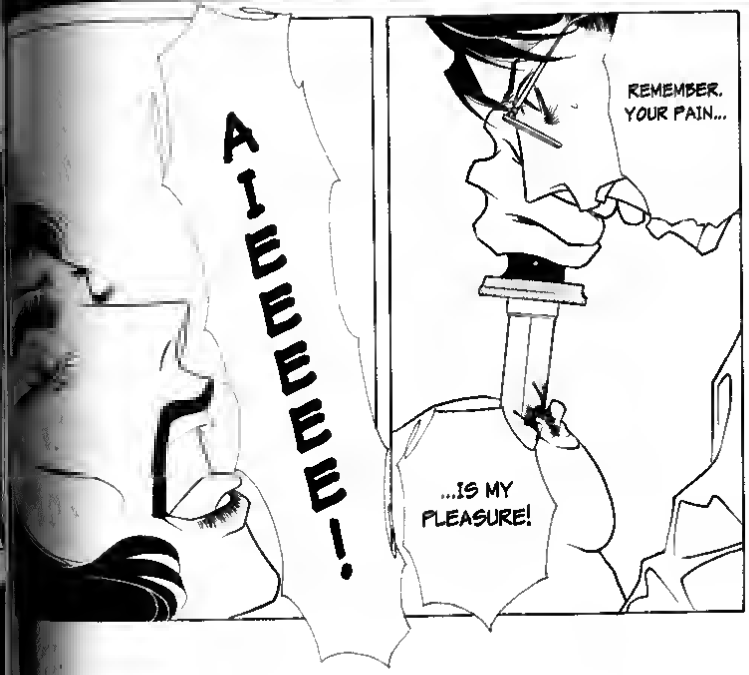
ORIE! COME ON!
WE'RE LEAVING
YES, SIR.

17. ANGEL

...SHE'D EMBRACE ME IN HER LOVING ARMS.

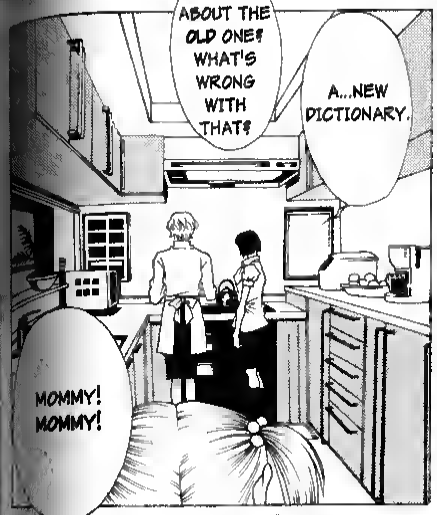
KAFF!
PHF!
IS THAT IT? 1,000 YEN?
SOME ATM YOU ARE!
TOMORROW BRING MORE MONEY.
THAT WON'T EVEN BUY ME MASCARA!
YEAH. FOR ME, TOO! I NEED A CD AND UNDERWEAR!
BUT-- SPUH-- I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE MONEY!

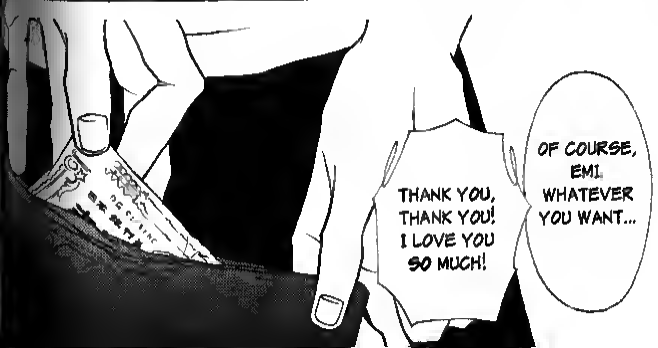
IF THERE WAS AN ANGEL ..



...SHE'D SOOTHE ME WITH HER GENTLE HANDS.

IF YOU EVER NEED TO TALK





WHAT?!
I UNDERSTAND IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU THINK I CARE WHAT YOU THINK?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND-- HOW COULD YOU?! YOU'RE JUST A DOLL!
FSSS!
EHH!
OH DEAR.
NOT MUCH OF A REACTION THERE.
MUST BE GETTING USED TO THE PAIN CAN'T HAVE THAT NOW, CAN WE? YOU NEED TO SUFFER..
...THE WAY SHE MADE ME SUFFER! THAT BITCH!
AN ANGEL WHOSE WINGS BEAT ALONG WITH MY HEART...

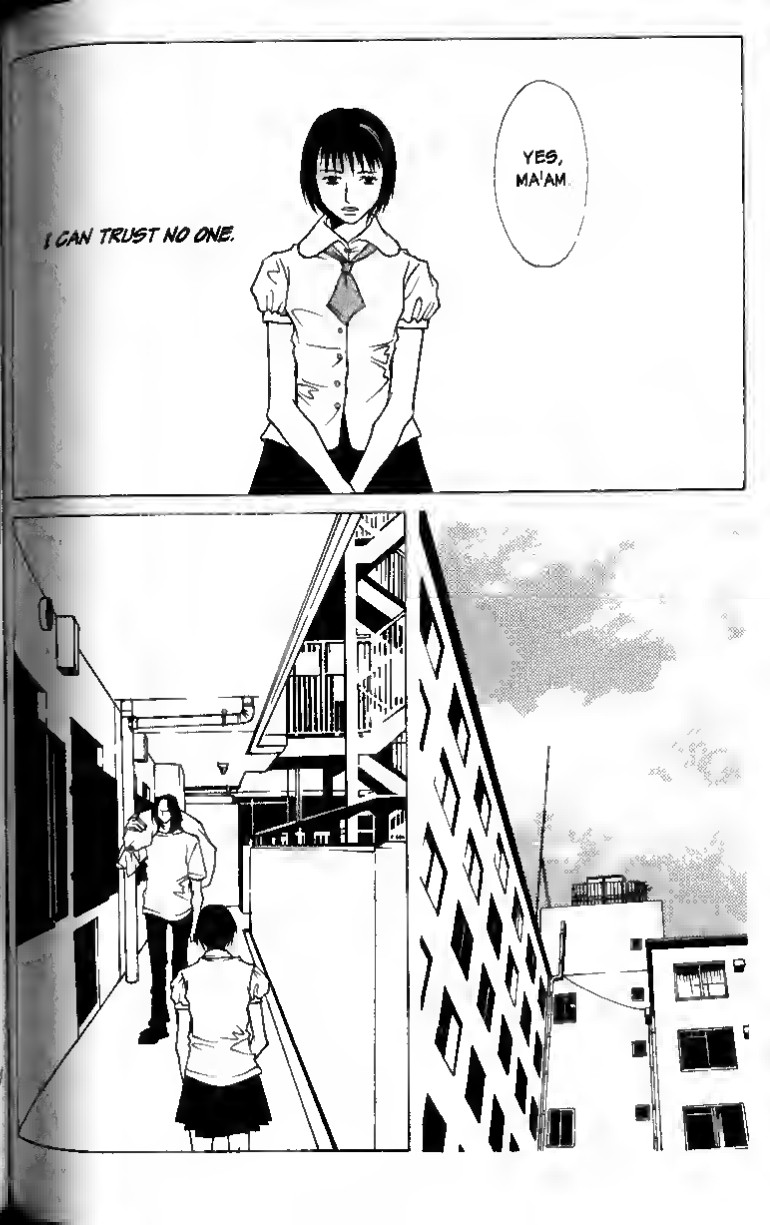
SILENCE IS NOT THE ANSWER, MISS URUSHIHARA.
IF THOSE GIRLS WERE BULLYING YOU, WE NEED TO KNOW.
GIRLS!
WELL, THAT'LL DO FOR NOW BUT DON'T THINK YOU'RE GETTING OFF SO..
GO!
BREAK THIS UP-- NOW!

YOU DON'T KNOW THE PAIN AND HUMILIATION AND HURT AND--
BUT...
YOU WILL. SEE...
HM. HM.
...I'M GOING TO KEEP PUNISHING YOU... FOREVER!

THERE IS NO BULLYING IN MY CLASS
YOU HAVE MY SOLEMN WORD.
BETRAYED..BY AN ANGEL.
MAMI?
IS THIS SO?

TEACHER SATO. THOSE GIRLS WERE IN YOUR CLASS.
I EXPECT YOU TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH AND DEAL WITH THE MATTER FIRMLY. THE SCHOOL HAS ITS GOOD NAME TO THINK OF.
.....
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL! I BELIEVE THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING HERE.
MADAM, I--
BRING YOUR FULL REPORT TO THURSDAY'S STAFF MEETING.
MISS URUSHIHARA WAS MERELY RETURNING MONEY SHE'D BORROWED. ISN'T THAT SO, MAMI?

ICHIRO-- YOU'RE BACK. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
HUH-- KIDS! AND THE GIRLS ARE THE WORST...
HEY!
OH. THAT'S ORIE, ISN'T IT? THE DOLL YOU REMODELED RECENTLY.
SHE WAS.. UPGRADED TO FEEL PAIN. RIGHT?
RIGHT.
GUY'S FIANCEE RAN AWAY, RIGHT BEFORE THEIR WEDDING NIGHT. WITH THE BEST MAN!
HAD ME MAKE THE DOLL LOOK JUST LIKE HER. WANTED TO PUNISH HER, I GUESS. CREEPY.


I CAN TRUST NO ONE.
YES, MA'AM.

THE TORMENT IS NEVER-ENDING.

17"

AIAAAAAA!

OH?

MASTER. I...I--

I LOVE YOU

WHAT'S HE WANT DOING NOW?

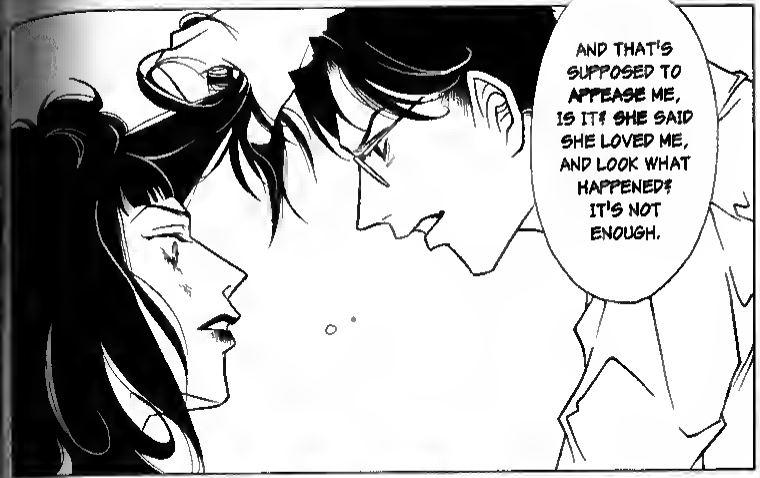
WANTS HER TO LOVE HIM. Y'KNOW. PAIN AN ALL.

WHO KNOWS WHAT GOES ON IN THEIR MINDS, EH? THESE RICH ELITE TYPES.

AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN... UNTIL SHE BREAKS OR HE DIES. FREAKY, HUH?

...HE WANTS HER TO CRAWL BACK TO HIM?

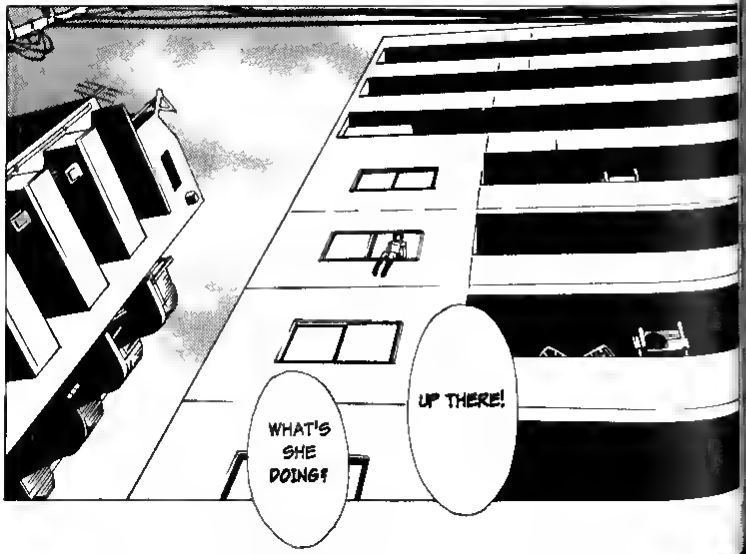
DESPITE EVERYTHING HE'S ALREADY DONE TO HER, WILL DO TO HER...

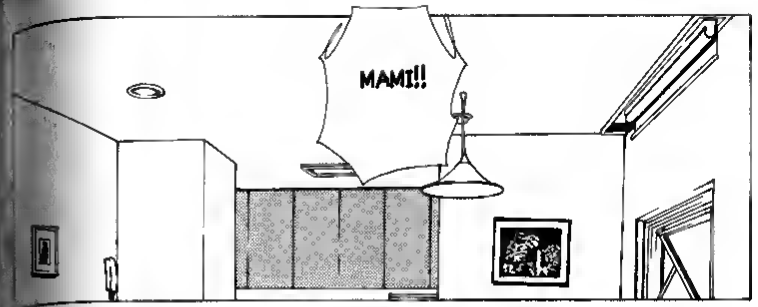


...I CANNOT EVEN ESCAPE
INTO MADNESS OR SUICIDE
MY PROGRAMMING PROHIBITS BOTH.

I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO LIVE FOR.

OPEN THE DOOR! MAMI!


WHAT'S SHE DOING?
UP THERE!


MAMI!!

MAMI, COME BACK HERE THIS INSTANT!
SO... WHAT? YOU JUST STEAL IT?

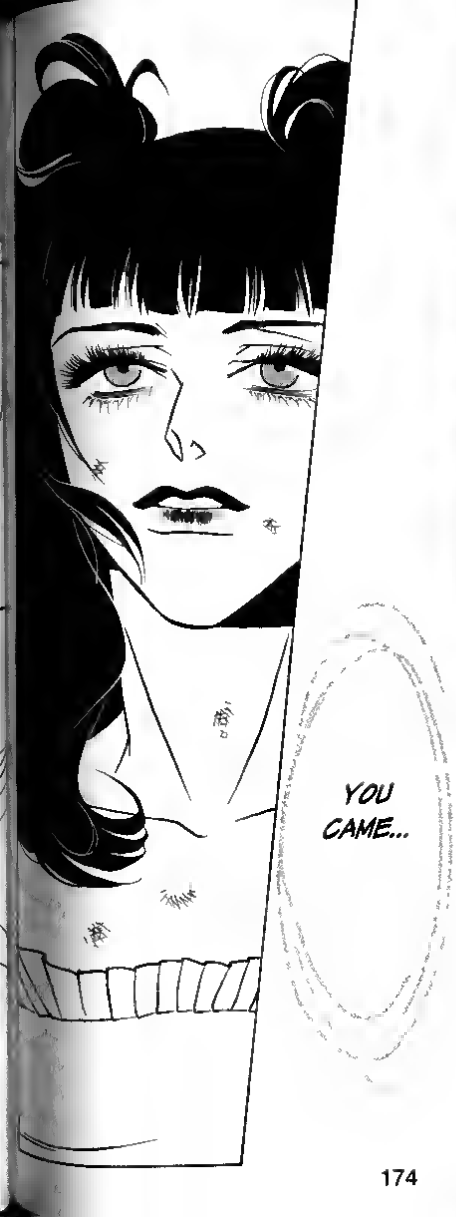
DID YOU TAKE MONEY FROM MY PURSE? I KNOW I HAD MORE IN HERE!

OF COURSE, IT HAD TO BE ME. EMI COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE DONE SUCH A THING!
I ASKED YOU FOR SOME. YOU SAID NO.

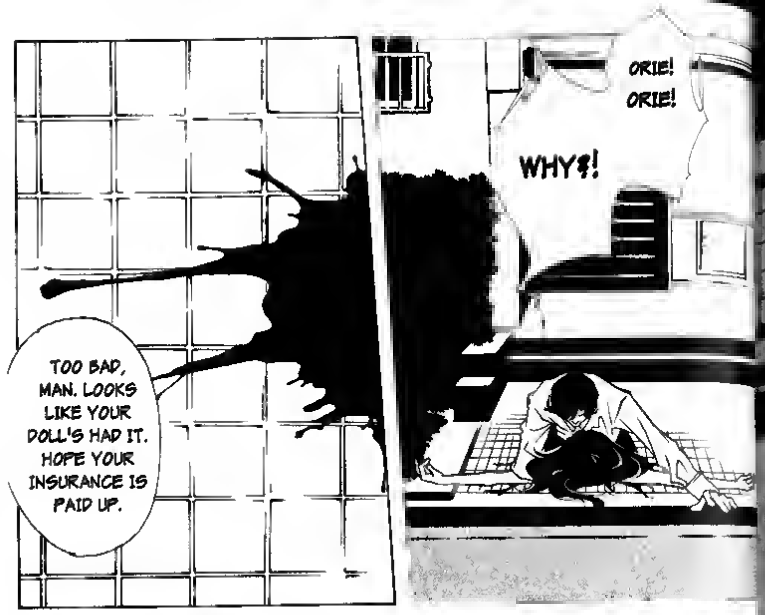
NOBODY CARES...
NOBODY CARES...
SHE-- AIEEEE!
SOMEONE, HELP!
ORIE! WHAT--?
SHE-- AIEEEE!

I DON'T--
I DON'T...
WANT TO DIE!
PLEASE--
OH! AN...ANGEL.
I'M
SCARED!
I--

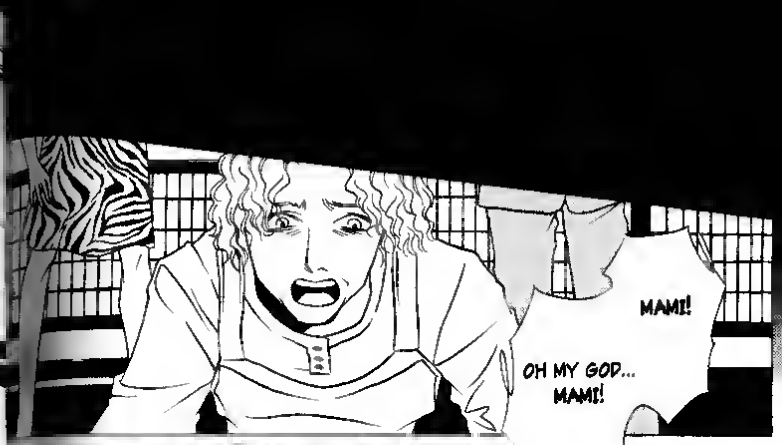
...MY ANGEL!


YOU CAME...

SHE'S--
LOOK OUT--
CAN'T WATCH --


ORIE!
ORIE!
WHY$!
TOO BAD, MAN. LOOKS LIKE YOUR DOLL'S HAD IT. HOPE YOUR INSURANCE IS PAID UP.

MY ANGEL.


MAMI!
OH MY GOD... MAMI!

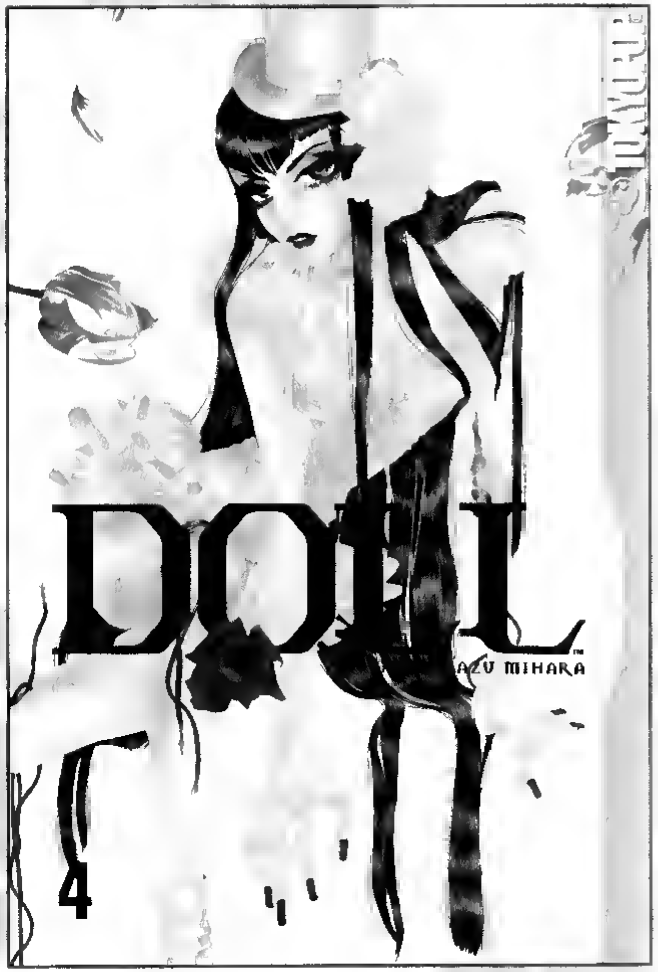
THE DOLL... SAVED HER, CUSHIONED HER FALL...
IT'S A MIRACLE!

UUHH?
WH-WHAT DID YOU DO? MY B-BABY. YOU...
CHOKE

...FOR GIVING ME SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN AGAIN.

Simon Furman is a writer for comic books and TV animation, his name inextricably linked with *Transformers,* the 80s toy phenomenon. He has written literally hundreds of stories about the war-torn 'robots in disguise', for several different publishers. In addition to his writing credits, Furman has served as editor on many comic books and graphic novels.

Mitsukazu Mihara debuted in 1994 with the short "Gomu no Iranai Kodomo-tachi," winning a contest for the magazine Feeling Young. Mitsukazu Mihara is particularly famous for the "Gothic Lolita" fashions that she dresses her characters in. Another famous series of hers besides *Doll* is *Happy Family*, a manga about the family of a boy with an Oedipus complex.



IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF

DOLL

SIX NEW TALES OF
ANDROIDS AND ANGST, INCLUDING:

LIFE

Haruka is pregnant and considering an abortion. In a world full of factory-made artificial beings, is there really such a thing as "the sanctity of life" anymore?

TALISMAN

When a couple can't have kids, to whom can they give their love? Why, their very own doll, of course! But when the couple in question eventually does manage to have a child of their own, what kind of destructive sibling rivalry will arise between two "children" that are different forms of life?

REMODELLER

Ichiro, the Remodeller, illegally alters dolls for money. But money is not the real reason he does what he does. Learn the history behind the mystery as we examine the origin of this particular outlaw genius.

FEATHER & STEEL

A famous economist once said that specialization is the key to wealth. Find out what specialization brings to a factory manager when he tries to turn a doll into a piece of heavy equipment.